

Approved

**RIO GRANDE ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
May 20, 2025**

GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

**Kathy McClendon, President
Dr. Susan McConnell, Vice President
Oren Ran, Treasurer
Corinne Teller, Secretary
Amer Child, Member
Dana Flores, Member**

GOOGLE MEET virtual meeting

Topic: RioGAFA Governing Board

RioGAFA Board Meeting

Tuesday, May 20, 2025 6:30 – 8:00pm

Time zone: America/Denver

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/btz-iihn-hms>

Or dial: (US) +1 318-414-0157 PIN: 410 268 284#

***Denotes potential action items for the Board**

NOTE: Agenda items can be added to the agenda for discussion, but they are not actionable. The Governance Board attempts to follow the order of items as listed, however, the order of specific items may vary from the printed agenda.

Public Comment:

- a. Members of the public who wish to speak at the Governing Board meeting, must sign-up prior to the meeting on the Public Comment sign-up sheet. The Governance Board President will set the time limit per presenter at the beginning of the meeting based on the number of persons signed up to address the Board. Persons from the same group and having similar viewpoints are asked to select a spokesperson to speak on their behalf. Multiple and repetitious presentations of the same view will be discouraged and may be ruled out of order.
- b. If the meeting is held virtually, public comment will be allowed during the meeting via Zoom. To speak during public comment, please email your request to speak with your name to up to twenty-four hours prior to the meeting to kathy.mcclendon@riograndeacademyoffinearts.com - Speakers will be unmuted in order to address the Governance Board. Public comments will be limited to 3 minutes or based on the number of speakers. The public may also email comments to Kathy McClendon at kathy.mcclendon@riograndeacademyoffinearts.com - Emailed comments will be kept with the records of the meeting.

The following format is not indicative that each thing is up for discussion, but a framework in which to fit the Board's business for meeting purposes.

AGENDA

A. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER (turn ON recording) (Amer) President

- a. Motion to approve
 - i. 1st- [Susan McConnell](#)
 - ii. 2nd- Amer Child
 - iii. All others in favor

B. ROLL CALL of Board Members & Welcome Staff and Guests Secretary

- a. Board Members
 - i. Kathy McClendon, President
 - ii. Dr. Susan McConnell, Vice President
 - iii. Oren Ran, Treasurer
 - iv. Corinne Teller Barraza, Secretary
 - v. Amer Child, Member
- b. Visitors
 - i. Michele Platis, Admin
 - ii. Jordan Franco, Admin
 - iii. Kelly Calahan, Consultant
 - iv. Sammi Marquez, Business Manager
 - v. Eliza Quintero, Asst Business Manager
 - vi. Sam Gonzales, Attorney

C. *Review of and Action regarding May 20, 2025 AGENDA Governing Board

- a. Motion to approve
 - i. 1st- [Susan McConnell](#)
 - ii. 2nd- Amer Child
 - iii. All others in favor

D. *Review of and Action regarding the MINUTES of April 15, 2025 Governing Board

- a. Motion to approve
 - i. 1st- Susan McConnell
 - ii. 2nd- Amer Child
 - iii. All others in favor

E. FINANCIALS REPORT Ran/Runyan/Marquez

a. *Review of and Action regarding May Financial Report incl. BAR's

- i. Motion to approve
 - 1. 1st- Oren Ran
 - 2. 2nd- Amer Child
 - 3. All others in favor
- ii. BARs- decrease BAR for student count adjustment
- iii. Reports
 - 1. All funds have been cleaned up to remove expenses that exceed budget
 - 2. BARs will be done for funds that have more revenue than budgeted

b. *Review of and Action regarding Blanket Bar Governing Board

- i. Motion to approve
 - 1. 1st- [Kathy McClendon](#)
 - 2. 2nd- Corinne Teller Barraza
 - 3. All others in favor
- ii. Blanket BAR will include bringing all Functions to a positive balance

F. KELLY CALLAHAN'S Reporting or Comments

Kelly Callahan

- a. Next year- this mentorship program expected to continue next year

G. INSTRUCTIONAL and OPERATIONS

RioGAFA Directors

a. Topics to Consider

i. Directors' Report

1) Jordan Franco

- a) 910b5 came in
- b) At Risk went down because multiplier went down (.18 to .16). May do an IPRA request to find out what caused this
- c) Lost one student, mostly related to low attendance
- d) Attendance about 86%. Working on ideas to increase that
- e) Training teachers for next year, to hire within
- f) Facilities- have land. Meeting with neighborhood assoc and submitting application, hoping in next few weeks.

2) Michelle Platis

- a) Had an amazing art show. [Susan McConnell](#) assisted. About 90% family attendance.
- b) State testing data coming. Had very high attendance on testing days so little makeup testing done.
- c) Performance coming up Friday!
- d) 1st grade data looking very good. 100% met their Exceptional Goals in Math. 82% met Typical Goals.
- e) High Quality Instr Materials grant to pay for new instructional materials
- f) Literacy Arts grant is moving forward so get to pay for Literacy Coordinator and Literacy Coach

H. Governance - Governing Board Items

a. No Items

Governing Board

- i. None

b. Facilities Update

Facilities Teams

- i. None

c. Documents Notice (if needed)

- i. None

I. Comments from Board or Directors

- a. Corinne- how does enrollment look next year? Jordan: About 90 students accepted

lottery seats. Most applications received ever. Another wave comes in July, so expecting 120 after students getting settled.

- b. Susan McConnel- Michele co-authored Education Connection, focusing on arts integration section for Balloon Fiesta Official Program
- c. Kathy McClendon- Discussion about state-wide SIS coming, to be paid by the State

J. NEXT Scheduled Meeting June 17, 2025

K. ADJOURNMENT (turn OFF the recording (Amer))

If you are an individual with a disability in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing or meeting, please contact Jordan Franco at jordan.franco@riograndeacademyoffinearts.com at least one week prior to the meeting or as soon as possible. Public documents, including the agenda and minutes, can be provided in various accessible formats. Please contact Jordan Franco at the phone number or email address above if a summary or other type of accessible format is needed.

Compiled by Corinne Teller

Approved June 17, 2025