

Draft Minutes February 17, 2026
As drafted by Corinne Teller Barraza, Board Secretary

**RIO GRANDE ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
Minutes
February 17, 2026**

GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

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

GOOGLE MEET virtual meeting

Topic: RioGAFA Governing Board

RioGAFA Board Meeting

Tuesday, February 17, 2026 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.

Minutes

A. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER (turn ON recording) (Amer)	President
B. ROLL CALL of Board Members	Secretary
a. Board Members	
i. Kathy McClendon, President	
ii. Oren Ran, Treasurer	
iii. Corinne Teller Barraza, Secretary	
iv. Amer Child, Member	
v. Dana Flores, Member	
b. Guests	
i. Sammi Marquez- Business Manager	
ii. Veronica- Legal Consultant	
iii. Teri Gough	
C. *Review of and Action regarding February 17, 2026 AGENDA	Governing Board
a. 1st- Kathy McClendon	
b. 2nd- Amer Child	
c. All in favor	
D. *Review of and Action regarding the MINUTES of January 20, 2025	Governing Board
a. 1st- Corinne Teller Barraza	
b. 2nd- Dana Flores	
c. All in favor	
E. FINANCIALS REPORT	Ran/Marquez
a. *Review of and Action regarding January 2026 Financial Report incl. BAR's	
i. 1st- Oren Ran	
ii. 2nd- Dana Flores	
iii. All in favor	
1. 13000- increase BAR, approx \$1,000	
2. CSP Award came in so expenses from various funds moved here	
3. Bank reconciliation tied out to bank statement	
4. JE's presented, done to correct account codes and reclassify expenses from one funds to other funds and another to move expenses to Title IV)	
F. GOVERNANCE - GOVERNING BOARD ITEMS	Governing Board
a. Review of and Action regarding a Revised Leave Policy	
i. Tabled to future meeting to discuss integrating with other leave policy.	
G. INSTRUCTIONAL and OPERATIONS	RioGAFA Directors
a. Jordan Franco	

- i. **Had a meeting about the new building.** Got neighborhood assoc to tour the facility prior to this meeting and so had no one present t speak against the building. There will be one more meeting.
- ii. **Renewal- PEC has concerns about proficiency rates.** He and Michele have been preparing for the meeting about this. They are ready to show the growth they have had through a solid presentation.
- iii. Working with Sammi, there were ZERO audit findings!
- iv. Meeting with the Charter Schools Division next week.
- v. RioGAFA may receive \$100k in capital outlay funds!
- vi. **Kathy McClendon** clarified that we are to get the \$10k related to board reflections
- vii. Enrollment- went up slightly to 211 students
- viii. Attendance improved. Parents are being called every day to improve attendance. This, among many illnesses
- ix. Staffing- lost an EA.
- x. Community events- getting back into the swing of things so not a lot in this area
 1. Building connections with community daycares and businesses, which will hopefully help with enrollment.

b. Michele Platis

- i. Reviewed mission and vision.
- ii. Weekly PD on science kits, math units
- iii. Data
 1. K-2
 - a. Math- 2nd gr was performance was high, across student groups. Quantiles are used to measure math performance. Continuing to look at L1 and 2, working toward them getting to L4
 - b. Literacy- great growth patterns, increases in fluency. Only 5% of Kinders are at Level 1. ELand indigenous students are above mid-year goals. Special Ed are at goal.
 2. Teachers have continued to get ongoing support to best support all students, increasing performance levels

H. Comments from Board or Directors

I. NEXT Scheduled Meeting March 17, 2026

J. 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.