North Valley Academy
Governing Council Agenda – Regular Meeting
7939 4th Street NW, Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, NM 87114
August 28, 2025, at 4:30 PM

The Governing Council will meet remotely via Zoom. Members of the public wishing to attend and listen may do so via the phone number or meeting link below.

ZOOM Meeting Info:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7863453364?pwd=WVJxY2Q1czdBRUpwR0tiWENqcS9SZz09&omn=81774869873
Passcode: 257728
Telephone Dial-In: +1 253 215 8782 US OR +1 301 715 8592 US
Meeting ID: 880 0393 6175

A. OPENING BUSINESS

1. Call to Order:

Victor Marthe, Council Chair, calls the meeting to order at 4:34 pm

2. Roll Call:

Name	Title	Present	Absent
Victor Marthe	Council Chair	x	
Crystal Sanchez	Member	x	
Ellen Argyres	Member	x	
Jackie Kinnunen	Secretary		x
Thomas Walmsley Jr.	Vice Chair	x	

Other attendees: Julie Geldmacher – Principal; Gowan Hays - Axiom, Tammy, Elizabeth Olguin - Assistant Principal

3. Pledge of Allegiance:

4. Vote to Approve Agenda:

Thomas Walmsley Jr., vice-chair, motioned to approve the 8/28/2025 agenda with tabling the action item B9, AED Policy. The motion was seconded by the council member, Ellen Argyres.

Roll call vote:

Name	Title	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Victor Marthe	Council Chair	x		
Crystal Sanchez	Member	x		
Ellen Argyres	Member	x		
Jackie Kinnunen	Secretary	N/A		
Thomas Walmsley Jr.	Vice Chair	x		

5. Vote to Approve Minutes:
Thomas Walmsley Jr., vice-chair, motioned to approve the minutes from the 6/26/25 meeting. The motion was seconded by the council member, Crystal Sanchez.

Roll call vote:

Name	Title	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Victor Marthe	Council Chair	x		
Crystal Sanchez	Member	x		
Ellen Argyres	Member	x		
Jackie Kinnunen	Secretary	N/A		
Thomas Walmsley Jr.	Vice Chair	x		

B. ACTION ITEMS

1. Bank Reconciliations:
Gowan Hays presented bank reconciliations from June and July. Review of outstanding payments. Anything over 90 days will be investigated. June is the month when the majority of the property taxes are paid - a large payment in HB33. Review of Adjusting Journal Entries for Pre-K funding. Outstanding checks decreased in the month of July.

Thomas Walmsley Jr., vice chair, motioned to approve the presented back reconciliations and check register for June and July 2025 as presented. The motion was seconded by council member Ellen Argyres.

Roll call vote:

Name	Title	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Victor Marthe	Council Chair	x		
Crystal Sanchez	Member	x		
Ellen Argyres	Member	x		
Jackie Kinnunen	Secretary	N/A		
Thomas Walmsley Jr.	Vice Chair	x		

2. Budget Adjustment Requests

Gowan Hays presented BARS 504-000-2526-0001-D to decrease the amount of funding for free and reduced lunches.

Thomas Walmsley Jr., vice chair, motioned to approve BARS 504-000-2526-0001-D. The motion was seconded by council member Ellen Argyres.

Roll call vote:

Name	Title	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Victor Marthe	Council Chair	x		
Crystal Sanchez	Member	x		
Ellen Argyres	Member	x		
Jackie Kinnunen	Secretary	N/A		
Thomas Walmsley Jr.	Vice Chair	x		

Gowan Hays presented on FY26 Budget and Forecast. Revenue adjustments: A/R from last year and an update to lease assistance. Expense Adjustments: Update to Property/Liability Insurance.

NVA has a strong fund balance, and all audited financials are complete and have been submitted to PED.

3. Bank Accounting Signature Removal

Julie Geldmacher discussed the axiom contract. Kimberly Gonzales is no longer working with NVA and Axiom, so she needs to be removed from the bank accounting signature authorization.

Thomas Walmsley Jr., vice chair, motioned to remove Kimberly from the bank account. The motion was seconded by council member Ellen Argyres.

Roll call vote:

Name	**Title**	**Yay**	**Nay**	**Abstain**
Victor Marthe	Council Chair	x		
Crystal Sanchez	Member	x		
Ellen Argyres	Member	x		
Jackie Kinnunen	Secretary	N/A		
Thomas Walmsley Jr.	Vice Chair	x		

4. Part-time Resolution

Julie Geldmacher reviewed the part-time contracts for 2 new school employees. This part-time resolution would allow .5 contracts to receive benefits. There will be no fiscal impact for NVA for this school year's contracts because Rio Grande with APS will be paying for the additional cost. The contract would also impact any future contracts for part-time employees.

Gowan Hays explained that he does not foresee any potential cost to the school for this year. This is something that is done yearly, so it can be revisited next year.

The board would like to have legal counsel, Dan Hill, to review the resolution and MOU with Rio Grande before voting. The board has tabled the part-time resolution until further review has been conducted.

Thomas Walmsley Jr., vice chair, motioned to table the part-time resolution. The motion was seconded by council member Ellen Argyres.

Roll call vote:

Name	Title	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Victor Marthe	Council Chair	x		
Crystal Sanchez	Member	x		
Ellen Argyres	Member	x		
Jackie Kinnunen	Secretary	N/A		
Thomas Walmsley Jr.	Vice Chair	x		

4. Approval of Lease for 7901 4th Street NW

Julie Geldmacher reviewed the contract with the lease with Saylor Family Trust for 7901 4th Street NW. The agreement states that the lease will remain the same, no increase, for the next 3 years.

Thomas Walmsley Jr., vice chair, motioned to approve the lease agreement. The motion was seconded by council member Ellen Argyres.

Roll call vote:

Name	Title	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Victor Marthe	Council Chair	x		
Crystal Sanchez	Member	x		
Ellen Argyres	Member	x		
Jackie Kinnunen	Secretary	N/A		
Thomas Walmsley Jr.	Vice Chair	x		

7. Electronic Device Policy

Julie Geldmacher discussed the electronic device policy with revisions to include smart watches and all electronic devices, not just cell phones, in the policy, with the exemption of students with medical needs or disabilities.

Thomas Walmsley Jr., vice chair, motioned to approve the updates to the electronic device use policy. The motion was seconded by Victor Marthe, council chair.

Roll call vote:

Name	Title	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Victor Marthe	Council Chair	x		
Crystal Sanchez	Member	x		
Ellen Argyres	Member	x		
Jackie Kinnunen	Secretary	N/A		
Thomas Walmsley Jr.	Vice Chair	x		

8. 2025-2026 Parent/Student Handbook

Julie Geldmacher reviewed the updates on the 25/26 Parent and Student Handbook. The revisions to the electronic device policy will be added. The visitation policy has also been updated to include a request for parents to visit classrooms in 20-minute increments. Visitors must also give teachers a 24-hour notice. Lunch Deliveries Policy updated to include a policy that food must not be delivered to students by outside vendors (i.e., Door Dash, Uber Eats, Grubhub). Food from families can only be delivered to students during their designated lunch time. Late Pick-up Policy includes a statement that students must be picked up within 15 minutes of dismissal time. If late pick-up happens more than two times, the school may be required to notify CYFD, hold a parent meeting, and require enrollment in the after-school program.

Thomas Walmsley Jr., vice chair, motioned to approve the updates in the student/parent handbook with the addition of the 24-hour notice of visits and the addition of the afterschool program into the late-pick-up policy. The motion was seconded by council member Crystal Sanchez.

Roll call vote:

Name	Title	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Victor Marthe	Council Chair	x		
Crystal Sanchez	Member	x		

Ellen Argyres	Member	x		
Jackie Kinnunen	Secretary	N/A		
Thomas Walmsley Jr.	Vice Chair	x		

9. AED Policy - Tabled to next meeting

C. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Head Administrator Report

Julie Geldmacher mentions that it has been a strong start to the school year. The open house is on September 16; Sandia Labs will be attending with STEM activities. Families will be invited to attend before student assemblies to have coffee with administrators to increase parent/student outreach. Geldmacher requested the morning of December 8 for a renewal hearing in Santa Fe. Once confirmed, Julie will report out. Liz, the new assistant principal, is introduced.

The NM State Schools summit is scheduled for November 17-20.

2. Finance Report

In future meetings, the finance report will be included in the action items.

D. CLOSING BUSINESS

1. Next Meeting – September 25, 2025, at 4:30 pm. Discussion of increasing face-to-face GC meetings - members enjoyed the in-person training.

2. Adjourn:

Victor Marthe, council chair, adjourned the meeting.

The Council may take any agenda item out of order, to facilitate business-at-hand.
If you are an individual with a disability who is 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 jgeldmacher@nvanm.org or (505) 998-0501 at least 48 hours 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 Mrs. Geldmacher at the phone number or email address above if a summary or other type of accessible format is needed.