North Valley Academy
Governing Council Agenda – Regular Meeting
7939 4th Street NW, Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, NM 87114
January 26, 2026, 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:

Council Chair Victor Marthe calls the meeting to order at 4:30 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; Sam Gonzales - DMH Law, Gowan Hays - Axiom, Tammy Hernandez

3. Pledge of Allegiance:

Council Chair Victor Marthe leads the Pledge of Allegiance

4. Vote to Approve 1/22/2026 Agenda:

Vice Chair Thomas Walmsley Jr. motioned to approve the 1/22/2026 agenda as presented. Member Ellen Argyres seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

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

Julie Geldmacher reminded the board that the Conflict of Interest Policy can be tabled because there is no need to update the policy. Vice Chair Thomas Walmsley Jr. motioned to table item B4: The Conflict of Interest Policy. Member Ellen Argyres seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

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

5. Vote to Approve Minutes from 12/10/25 :
Vice-Chair Thomas Walmsley Jr. motioned to approve the minutes from the 12/10/25 meeting. Member Ellen Argyres seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

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

B. ACTION ITEMS

1. Monthly Finance Report

Gowan Hays presented bank reconciliations from November 2025. Approximately $30,000 in outstanding payments, some of which were cleared out in December. The Harvest Festival receipts totaled over $3,000 on revenue. Hayes presented the check register and reviewed transactions with the board. Payroll in November was higher than normal due to the PD stipends.

Hayes reviewed the December 2025 bank reconciliation statement. Outstanding payments are down to approximately $4,000. No abnormalities in receipts. Hayes reviewed the December check listing. Payroll is back to normal for the month of December. Summary Report of 25-26 was reviewed, as well as the RFRs.

Vice Chair Thomas Walmsley Jr. made a motion to approve the finance report as presented. The motion was seconded by Secretary Jacki Kinnunen.

Roll call vote:

Name	Title	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Victor Marthe	Council Chair	x		
Crystal Sanchez	Member	x		
Ellen Argyres	Member	x		
Jackie Kinnunen	Secretary	x		

Thomas Walmsley Jr.	Vice Chair	x		

2. Budget Adjustment Requests

Gowan Hayes presented BARs 504-000-2526-0003-I and BARs 504-000-2526-0004-I. BARs 504-000-2526-0003-I is an increase in funding for the Library Fund. This is distributed to all the schools based on enrollment numbers. PD must approve purchases for the library. BARs504-000-2526-0004-I is for an increase in funding for lease assistance.

Vice Chair Thomas Walmsley Jr. made a motion to approve BARs 504-000-2526-0003-I and BARs 504-000-2526-0004-I. Member Crystal Sanchez seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

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

3. Assurances for Compliance

Sam Gonzales presented changes in the school's performance framework. The PEC requires that the board review the 3C compliance checklist and framework documents to ensure that all board members are aware of the requirements. Gonzales reviewed the changes in the 3 categories: Academic, Organizational, and Financial. Changes include that schools can use Vistas or opt in to use interim assessment data to show proficiency in student growth targets. NVA will use the interim assessment data to show student proficiency and growth for the academic category. The Mission Goal will remain the same except for using the pacer. There are no major changes in the Organizational category except for the Compliance with Legal Requirements section. There is now a Compliance Requirements checklist that must be completed and submitted to the PED. Gonzales reviewed the indicator checklist with the board. Under the Financial category, Gonzales discussed the requirements of the governing body and the specific details that must be included in meetings and meeting minutes. Lastly, Gonzales reviewed the Contract Workbook and the terms of board member contracts.

Vice Chair Thomas Walmsley Jr. made a motion to approve the NM PEC Performance Framework Indicators. Member Ellen Argyres seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

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

4. Conflict of Interest Policy

This item was tabled at the start of the meeting.

5. Lottery Policy

School administrator Julie Geldmacher reviewed the requested changes to the lottery policy, removal of Section III: Coronavirus Necessitated Lotteries. Coronavirus no longer plays a role in enrollment or admissions.

Vice Chair Thomas Walsmsley Jr. made a motion to approve the lottery policy, striking section III. Secretary Jacki Kinnunen seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

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

C. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Head Administrator Report

School administrator Julie Geldmacher shared that the return to school with 2 PD days with the staff was successful. The PD days included a training in Trauma-Informed Teaching and a seminar to strengthen communication and relationships with families. Charter School Choice Fair is on Saturday, January 24th. The school lottery is open and will remain open through March 25th.

Tammy shared findings from the staff's monthly data meeting. Staff reviewed data and discussed strategies to get all students to meet their goals or reach proficiency levels, including relevant intervention strategies for specific students. Discussion to offer students incentives to encourage students to take the tests more seriously.

2. Governing Council Training

GC members discussed meeting in person in March, with Dan and Sam from DMH Law also attending. Members also discussed meeting once per quarter in person at the NVA campus. Julie Geldmacherwill reach out to DMH Law to coordinate a date in March for the in-person training. The board committed to holding a hybrid February meeting.

D. CLOSING BUSINESS

1. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Safe Schools and Legislative Updates

2. Next Meeting - February 26, 2026, at 4:30 pm

3. Adjourn:

Council Chair Victor Marthe adjourned the meeting.

The Council may take any agenda item out of order to facilitate business-at-hand.

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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.