VAUGHN | NEXT CENTURY LEARNING CENTER

BUSINESS GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES 26-27

MEETING DETAILS		
Date: September 1, 2026	**Start Time:** 2:00 pm	**Intended End Time: 3:30pm**
Location: ***VISA*** **Room 130**	**Agenda Prepared by:** **Nicole Mohr (interim chair)**	

1. VOTING MEMBERS

Name	Campus	Role	Attendance (Present/Absent)
Nicole Mohr	VISA	Parent	Present
Liliana Gomez	G3	Parent	Present
Laura Torres	G3	Parent	Present
Daisy Valle	PL	Parent	Present
Kristen Ragsdale	ML	Teacher	Absent
Johnie Morales	MIT	Teacher	Present
Hayk Alciyan	VISA	Teacher	Present
Ana Osta	PL	Teacher	Present
Sonia Cortez	G3	Teacher	Absent

2. NON-VOTING MEMBERS

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Name	Role	Attendance (Present/Absent)
BUDGET		
Fidel Ramirez	CEO	Attendance
Yolanda Griffin	CFO	Attendance
	Secretary	Attendance
	Facilitator	Attendance
		Attendance
		Attendance
		Attendance
		Attendance
		Attendance
		Attendance
		Attendance
		Attendance
		Attendance
		Attendance
		Attendance
		Attendance
PERSONNEL		
Luis Carbajo	HR	Attendance
Irene Muro	ML- Admin	Attendance
Johnie Morales	MIT	Attendance

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Riham Ammari	ML	Attendance
	Facilitator	Attendance
	Secretary	Attendance
		Attendance
		Attendance
		Attendance
		Attendance
		Attendance
		Attendance
		Attendance
		Attendance
		Attendance
		Attendance

2. AGENDA

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1. **Establish a Quorum/ Call to Order** Business_September 2026 Committee Meeting
   a. Committee Sign in

2. **Public Comment:** Business Governance Public Comment Sign-up
3. **Review and Approval of Minutes:** Voting Members will review and approve the minutes from the June meeting. Minutes are available here.

   Ana Osta motions to approve the minutes from the June meeting, Daisy Valle seconds the motion. Motion approved.

4. **Governance**
   a. **Selection and voting for new Governance Committee Chair (Action), beginning October 1st.**

Nicole Mohr Yes
Liliana Gomez Yes
Laura Torres Yes
Daisy Valle Yes
Kristen Ragsdale absent
Johnie Morales Yes
Hayk Alciyan Yes
Ana Osta Yes
Sonia Cortez Absent

7 in favor, 2 absent. Mr. Ylo is elected chair.

Agenda is approved with adjustment from published agenda. Announcement

b. Governance committee reflection (Padlet).
   i. Summary of discussion of our priorities for next year:

- Extended School Year (ESY): Reimagining ESY structure and determining target student populations were high-priority concerns. Specific focus was raised on how changes to ESY might impact high school credit recovery opportunities, but as a budget committee, how it might allow for consistent COLA increases annually.
- Employee Classification & Compensation: Key questions were raised regarding proposed 10, 11, or 12-month pay plans/reclassifications and their potential impacts on retirement, STRS, and health benefits.
- COLA increases were also highlighted as an urgent need to improve teacher retention.
- Campus Safety & Retention: Allocating budget to improve campus safety and increase student retention was cited as a primary need.
- Leave Benefits: Clarification on maternity disability policies was highlighted as a key area of focus.

c. Announcements/ Informational Items:

i. CEO Update - Fidel Ramirez (Click link for presentation)

Last year's enrollment. Last year was a bit of a roller coaster as we gained and lost students throughout the goal. We did hit our target. Our new budgeted projected enrollment was 2547. The first day of school enrollment was very high (2582). As of Aug 19th, we are at 2551. This is not uncommon as some parents may have chosen our school as a second choice, but wanted an LAUSD magnet, and sometimes as LAUSD opens and has no shows and space opens, students leave and go to those schools. But we are still above our target. Our ADA is higher than it has been since before covid. We are also trying some advertising, like a billboard at the Northridge mall.

Our parent engagement events this past month have been very successful, and so have classes at the family center, such as grief support and citizenship classes.

ii. Fiscal Update - Yolanda Griffin

1. Enrollment Update

- **Current Status:** Enrollment is meeting standard projections.
- **Trends:** Since 2019, enrollment has decreased by approximately 400

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students, representing a 3% decline.
- **Context:** This decline aligns with broader trends across California, driven by falling birth rates and general population decreases.

2. State Funding & Budgeting

- **State COLA & Mandates:** The state adopted a 4.31% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA), which incorporates a mandate granting teachers 100% funded leave for 14 weeks of pregnancy leave.
- **Additional Funding:** California increased the base allocation for Special Education and made discretionary block grants available.
- **Approved Budget Model:** The Board previously voted in June on a budget model reflecting an initial 2.87% COLA increase, excluding the full 4.31% COLA, special education funds, and discretionary block grants.
- **Next Steps:** The committee will continue refining the budget model throughout the year to capture these additional revenue streams.

3. Special Education & Operations

- **Revenue Deficit:** Special Education expenditures continue to exceed assigned special education revenues.
- **Out-of-District Costs:** Mercy Macharia highlighted that when internal services (e.g., specialized day classes) cannot support a student's needs, then Vaughn must fund and transfer the student to an external program equipped to support them.
- **Budget Structure:** The overall budget currently comprises site-specific budgets, Vaughn Central, after-school programs, and child nutrition. A dedicated Special Education sub-budget is being evaluated to grant sites greater operational flexibility.

4. Reimagining Extended School Year (ESY)

- **Mandated Requirement:** Vaughn must provide 20 days of July programming for students with special needs.
- **Proposed Shift:** Currently, attendance is mandated for all K-8 students. Vaughn plans to transition to a targeted ESY model aligned with direct student needs and financial constraints.
- **Funding Challenges:** Declining Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP) funds require a more conservative ESY spending model to safeguard future COLAs.
- **Summer Needs & Feedback:** Fidel Ramirez noted that July intervention services will remain necessary for specific populations. A parent survey will be distributed to align summer services with family needs.

5. Proposal: Employee Reclassification

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- **Overview:** Proposal presented by Yolanda to classify all staff as 10-, 11-, or 12-month employees based strictly on their active work schedules.
- **Rationale:** Resolves an administrative issue where departing employees receive July pay overpayments that prove difficult to claw back.
- **Impact:** Annual salary and STRS/retirement benefits will remain entirely unaffected.

Concern: How does this impact unemployment?

iii. **Human Resources -** Luis Carbajo

Updates to employee evaluations are still in the works. This is not for the purpose of discipline. There is a process for that. This is for employee growth and is still in the works.

iv. **Personnel updates** (no updates as we have not met yet)

v. **Budget updates** (no updates as we have not met yet)

5. **Next Business Committee meeting:** September 29, 2026
6. **Next Board of Directors meeting:** September 23, 2026- **link (List of meetings here)**
7. **Adjournment:**

Norms

- ○ **Follow health safety protocols accordingly**
- ○ **Keep teachers and students at the center of focus and decision making.**
- ○ **Support each other by keeping a positive tone and attitude - Be open to new ideas.**
- ○ **Begin and end on time.**
- ○ **One speaker at a time**
- ○ **Support each other by actively listening and staying engaged.**

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3. SUBCOMMITTEES

BUDGET- VA MPR 101

Working Group Facilitator	
Working Group Secretary	

MINUTES:

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PERSONNEL- VA 202A

Working Group Facilitator	
Working Group Secretary	

MINUTES: •