North Valley Academy
Governing Council Meeting Minutes – Regular Meeting
7939 4th Street NW, Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, NM 87114
August 27, 2026 at 4:30 PM

ZOOM Meeting Info:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86001936024?pwd=FzVsUxskLYxT7HflBH0TiaYFfD2ynM.1
Passcode: ZeH4xf
Telephone Dial-In: +1 253 215 8782 US OR +1 301 715 8592 US
Meeting ID: 860 0193 6024

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	
Thomas Walmsley Jr.	Vice Chair	x	
Ellen Argyres	Member		x
Jackie Kinnunen	Secretary		x
Sandy Kraft	Member	x	
Debra Martin	Member	x	
Crystal Sanchez	Member	x	

Other attendees: Julie Geldmacher – Principal; Samantha Gonzales and Dan Hill - DMH Law, Gowan Hayes

3. Pledge of Allegiance:

Council Chair Victor Marthe leads the Pledge of Allegiance

4. Vote to Approve 8/27/26 Agenda:

Council Chair Victor Marthe made a motion to approve the 8/27/26 agenda as presented. Vice Chair Thomas Walmsley Jr. seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Name	Title	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Victor Marthe	Council Chair	x		

Thomas Walmsley Jr.	Vice Chair	x		
Crystal Sanchez	Member	x		
Ellen Argyres	Member		N/A	
Jackie Kinnunen	Secretary		N/A	
Sandy Kraft	Member	x		
Debra Martin	Member	x		

5. Vote to Approve Minutes from June 25, 2026 and July 23, 2026
Member Sandy Kraft made a motion to approve the 6/25/26 meeting minutes as presented. Chair Victor Marthe seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

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

Member Sandy Kraft made a motion to approve the 7/23/26 meeting minutes as presented. Chair Victor Marthe seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

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

Jackie Kinnunen	Secretary		N/A	
Sandy Kraft	Member	x		
Debra Martin	Member	x		

B. ACTION ITEMS

1. Monthly Finance Report

Council Chair Victor Marthey shared the overview of the monthly finance report which the finance committee reviewed prior to the meeting.

2. June 2026 and July 2026 check register

Gowan Hayes presented the June and July 2026 check registers with the board.

3. June 2026 and July 2026 Bank Reconciliation

Gowan Hayes shared bank reconciliations for June 2026 and July 2026 with the board.

4. BARS

- **27416-504-000-2627-0001-IB:** An out-of-school time grant ($40,000) intended primarily for tutoring and teacher compensation.
- **27416-504-000-2627-0002-IB:** A Community Schools Grant ($70,000) which supports a community coordinator position
- The school is still awaiting official documentation for a separate grant related to high-quality instructional materials.

Vice Chair Thomas Walmsley Jr. made a motion to approve BARS 27416-504-000-2627-0001-IB and 27416-504-000-2627-0002-IB. Council Chair Victor Marthe seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

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

C. Discussion Items

1. **Head Administrator Report**

   The Head Administrator shared highlights from the start of the school year at NVA. The school year has started strongly, with staff participating in professional development regarding behavior support. Enrollment has increased by 25 students. The school's pre-K program is currently a four-year-old only program, but there is interest in potentially moving to a mixed-age (three and four-year-old) program in the future to help fill seats. Pre-K enrollment is at 23 students. Excluding pre-K enrollment, the school has a total enrollment of 286. Last year the school was at 270 without pre-K.

   Geldmacher shared a video from 7th and 8th grade students from Miss Anaya's class, the MS lead ELA teacher. The students in the video shared their poetry with the board.

2. **Governing Council Training**

   Dan Hill and DMH Law will be doing a governing council board members training on November 7th, 2026 at Cottonwood Classical. No cost to board members and all required training hours will be completed during this in-person training. New board members are still required to complete the 10 hours of training through PED.

D. CLOSING BUSINESS

1. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

The school has engaged a lobbyist and is awaiting further updates regarding potential funding opportunities. Geldmacher will request his presence at the next meeting to provide updates to the board members.

2. Next Meeting - September 24, 2026, at 4:30 pm

3. Adjourn:

Council Chair Victor Marthe adjourned the meeting.