North Valley Academy

Governing Council Meeting Minutes – Regular Meeting
7939 4th Street NW, Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, NM 87114
September 24, 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:

Vice Chair Thomas Walmsley Jr. calls the meeting to order at 4:47 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:

Vice Chair Thomas Walmsley Jr. leads the Pledge of Allegiance

4. Vote to Approve 9/24/26 Agenda:

Member Debra Martin made a motion to approve the 9/24/26 agenda as presented. Ellen Argyres seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Name	Title	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Victor Marthe	Council Chair		N/A	

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

5. Vote to Approve Minutes from August 27, 2026
Member Debra Martin made a motion to approve the 8/27/26 meeting minutes as presented. Member Sandy Kraft seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

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

B. ACTION ITEMS

1. CES Contract - Ancillary services
Gowan Hayes shared that all contracts over $60,000 need board approval. Hayes shared the contracts for ancillary services such as diagnostic, therapy (OTP, PT, SLP), and social work services which total $361,000 based on the school's needs. This amount was budgeted, but changes were made based on students' needs. Amounts reflect a maximum amount for each provider - some listed services are hourly.

Member Sandy Kraft made a motion to approve the CES Contract for Ancillary Services. Member Crystal Sanchez seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

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

2. Canteen Food Services contract

Gowan Hayes presented the Canteen Food Services contract to the board for the school's food services provider. The contract also needs to be approved by the state and is on a 3 year cycle. Food costs increased, but management fees did not.

Member Sandy Kraft made a motion to approve the Canteen Food Services contract. Member Ellen Argyres seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

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

3. JMP Academy contract

Gowan Hayes presented the JMP Academy contract. JMP helps with Nova reporting, Special Education support services, and Special Education director duties. Julie Geldmacher reports approximately 46 students in the Special Education department (excluding Pre-K).

Member Sandy Kraft made a motion to approve the JMP Academy contract. Member Ellen Argyres seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

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

4. Monthly Finance Committee Report: to include a review of net position, net position, a budget to an actual statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance, cash flow.

Gowan Hayes presented the Monthly Finance Committee Report with the board.

- **o August 2026 check register**
  Hayes reviewed the August 2026 check register with the board including outstanding checks and large expenses. Apta fund costs increased due to system training.

- **o August 2026 bank reconciliation**
  Hayes presented the budget account summary including encumbrances and remaining balance.

- **o BARS**
  - **o 504-000-2627-0004-IB -** Award of $98,000 for a math grant which will be used for additional compensation for additional PD completed by staff.
  - **o 504-000-2627-0005-M -** Maintenance for negatives will be cleaned up moving forward.
  - **o 504-000-2627-0006-M -** Maintenance for negatives will be cleaned up moving forward.
  - **o 504-000-2627-0007-M -** Maintenance for negatives will be cleaned up moving forward.
  - **o 504-000-2627-0008-M -** Maintenance for negatives will be cleaned up moving forward.
  - **o 504-000-2627-0009-M -** Maintenance for negatives will be cleaned up moving forward.

- **o 504-000-2627-0010-T -** Maintenance for negatives will be cleaned up moving forward.
- **o 504-000-2627-0011-M -** Maintenance for negatives will be cleaned up moving forward.
- **o 504-000-2627-0012-M -** Maintenance for negatives will be cleaned up moving forward.

Maintenance bars represent adjustments to clean up negative balances

Vice Chair Thomas Walmsley Jr. made a motion to approve BARS 504-000-2627-0004-IB, 0005-M, 0006-M, 0007-M, 0008-M, 0009-M, 0010-T, 0011-M, and 0012-M. Member Debra Martin seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

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

C. Discussion Items

1. **Head Administrator Report**

The head administrator, Julie Geldmacher provided updates on school performance and activities:

Academic Data: Presented baseline math assessment data and "Amira" reading assessment data, noting areas for improvement in proficiency despite schoolwide efforts to support growth through weekly data meetings and intervention blocks. Overall math proficiency for the school is 29% compared; the state math proficiency is averaging 27%. Overall reading proficiency at NVA is 35%. Geldmacher described changes in curriculum and professional development training in English and Math to improve proficiency rates.

State Accountability: Reviewed the Vista state accountability profile, noting the school's "traditional" status and identifying strengths in student growth and attendance.

School Events: Shared updates regarding upcoming campus visits from district representatives, successful open house events, and cultural celebrations including Hispanic heritage celebrations with Tierra Adentro. Geldmacher shared small business pitches developed by students and club choices for students.

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

2. Next Meeting - October 22, 2026, at 4:30 pm

3. Adjourn:
Vice chair Thomas Walmsley Jr made a motion to adjourn. Member Ellen Argyres seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.