



GOVERNING COUNCIL

Regular Meeting of the Albuquerque Aviation Academy Governing Council on
Friday, October 23, 2026

via Zoom.us & In person at 6441 Ventana Road NW

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Roland Dewing, Laura Kohr, Farrah Nickerson, Alex Carothers, and Larry Kennedy

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Mike Romo

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Bridget Barrett, Amanda Catanzaro, Kelly Callahan, Sean Fry, and Lauren Chavez

PUBLIC

none

These minutes were approved on _____

By a vote of ___ yes ___ no ___ absent ___ abstained

_____ President

_____ Secretary

I. Call to Order

Larry Kennedy called to order the Regular Meeting of the Governing Council for the Albuquerque Aviation Academy for October 23, 2026 at 2:00 PM on Zoom.us and in person.

A. Roll Call

Larry Kennedy asked Amanda Catanzaro to call roll. Amanda Catanzaro called Roland Dewing, Laura Kohr (via Zoom), Farrah Nickerson (via Zoom), Alex Carothers (via Zoom), and Larry Kennedy.

B. Adoption of the Agenda*

Larry Kennedy asked to amend the agenda removing V (five) C, D and E and G because the person could not attend today's meeting. Larry Kennedy ask for a motion to approve the amended agenda. Farrah Nickerson made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Roland Dewing seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy asked Amanda Catanzaro to call roll. Amanda Catanzaro called Roland Dewing, Laura Kohr, Farrah Nickerson, Alex Carothers and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Review/Approval of Minutes from September 25, 2026 Regular Meeting*

Larry Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the minutes from September 25, 2026 Regular Meeting. Farrah Nickerson made a motion to approve the minutes. Laura Kohr seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy asked Amanda Catanzaro to call roll. Amanda Catanzaro called Roland Dewing, Laura Kohr, Farrah Nickerson, Alex Carothers and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

II. Public Comment

Larry Kennedy asked Bridget Barrett and Amanda Catanzaro if there was any public comment. No one signed up for public comments.

III. Ongoing Business Matters

A. Aviation Committee Update

No update was provided.

B. B. Aviation Program Update

Dr. Chavez presented that they have flown 10 hours in Hotel Kilo and 11.4 hours in Addison. Did not fly as much last month due to poor weather conditions.

There is a check-ride scheduled for November 4th and another student just completed their first solo flight.

Classes are going well. LOEFI and Coyote Willow events went great and Stryker and students represented our school well. Two seniors are scheduled to completed the Air Traffic Control internship before graduation.

Expenses were reviewed. Hotel Kilo is coming up on the 100 hour and then Addison will completed the 100 hour right after.

IV. Administrative Update

A. Student Achievement Update

Bridget Barrett presented that our 40 day enrollment was 324 students, an increase from last year.

Overall and Actual Grades are increasing. Conferences and academic grade checks for sports playing a factor in those increases. Attendance was recognized for the 1st Quarter and 31 students earned the Perfect Attendance Award at the assemblies.

Story was shared about a dog that was hit by a car right outside of our school and how one of our students used the drone to help locate the injured dog, who had run into the arroyo, used the drone to move the dog back towards the owners where they were reunited and the dog was able to get medical attention. Very positive way for our students to use their skills to help our community.

Lots of support happening for our students to increase their Actual Grades including staff helping individual students, Adopt-a-Student program, homeroom classes focusing on students and student led conferences happening this month.

V. New Business Matters

A. Organizational Chart *

Bridget Barrett shared that the lawyer suggested we refine our Organizational Chart and have this reviewed and approved by the Governing Council annually. Larry Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the Organizational Chart. Roland Dewing made a motion to approve. Alex Carothers seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy asked Amanda Catanzaro to call roll. Amanda Catanzaro called Roland Dewing, Laura Kohr, Farrah Nickerson, Alex Carothers and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Updated Leave Policy *

Amanda Catanzaro shared the updated Leave Policy which was discussed by administration and then sent to the attorney for legal review. We added a couple of sections, but the attorney also updated some of the policy to reflect changes in law.

Larry Kennedy asked for a motion to accept the updated Leave Policy. Farrah Nickerson made the motion. Alex Carothers seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy asked Amanda Catanzaro to call roll. Amanda Catanzaro called Roland Dewing, Laura Kohr, Farrah Nickerson, Alex Carothers and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

C. 2025-2026 Annual Report of Albuquerque Aviation Academy

Amanda Catanzaro and Bridget Barrett shared the Annual Report from the CSD. This will be on the November PEC meeting agenda and Bridget and Amanda will be in attendance. Discussed 1.B.1 Growth for student groups on state accountability system that we received a rating of Working to Meets. Even with our overall proficiency rate growth and being 89.9% in the state and a spotlight school, using this rubric, not enough of our individual subgroups made adequate growth on last year's testing. Discussed 2.C Learning culture: re-enrolls > 80% of eligible students. School earned a Working to Meets. This indicator only looks at enrollment on 40-day one year compared to 40-day the following year and rating was originally scored at Does Not Meet with a 69%, but we petitioned students who had extenuating circumstances to leave the school and students who moved out of state. Updated rating was 72%, which is Working to Meets. Discussion around how this is the only data point used to determine Learning Culture when so much more goes in the culture of a school. Use of survey data is not used at all, and discussion around how families leave if we retain students, but how we do not want to lower our standards or expectations. We want high quality education for all students. Wanted to share this report with the board before it was presented to the PEC. Alex Carothers would like to also attend the PEC meeting in November and we will provide him with those details.

VI. Governing Council Development

A. Governing Council Training Discussion

Kelly Callahan (via Zoom) shared that Albuquerque Aviation Academy Governing Council is in year seven of the training partnership. Kelly will be attending the November meeting and would like the Governing Council members to be thinking about a half-day retreat date where the board will come up with some strategic goals for the next year.

Board was provided with the Training Competencies in the packet this month and should go through them individually prior to the next meeting. This will help mold the focus priorities and decide where Kelly can best provide guidance and support. Larry Kennedy asked that all members think about a date that would work and this will be a discussion in November. This training would be posted due to quorum but not recorded.

VII. Finance Report

A. Finance Committee Report

Larry Kennedy shared that the finance committee met prior to this meeting and reviewed the finances in depth and focused on internal controls with the bank reconciliation and how that is handled by more than one set of eyes. Finance Committee can recommend Sean's report. Roland Dewing also shared that the finance committee reviewed the controls for Journal Entries as well.

B. Business Office Operations Update

Sean Fry presented that the Finance Committee met prior to the meeting and CSD has recommended that members of the finance committee report on what they are focusing on and the internal controls in place. The finance committee reviewed the activity through the end of the month and 1st quarter.

Enrollment is at an all-time high for the school which will lead to an increase in the operational fund of approximately \$80,000.

The ending bank balance was \$2,390,641.98 and reviewed the outstanding items which is higher this month because of a large payment to Imagine Learning that had not yet cleared at the end of the month. School is still waiting for the Lease Reimbursement award which should happen soon. Working towards the 15% operational goal for cash carry-over but we are in a good position. Governing Council had a question about the ACES amount for the month and discussed how that included a large payment for HVAC repairs in the payment.

Laura Kohr left the meeting at approximately 2:40 PM during this discussion.

C. Voucher Approvals for September 2026 *

Sean Fry presented the September Vouchers and the Finance Committee can support the approval.

Larry Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the September 2026 Voucher Approvals. Farrah Nickerson made a motion. Alex Carothers seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy asked Amanda Catanzaro to call roll. Amanda Catanzaro called Roland Dewing, Farrah Nickerson, Alex Carothers and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Bank Reconciliation for September 2026 *

Sean Fry presented the September Bank Reconciliation. The Finance Committee can support the approval.

Larry Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the September 2026 Bank Reconciliation. Farrah Nickerson made a motion. Alex Carothers seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy asked Amanda Catanzaro to call roll. Amanda Catanzaro called Roland Dewing, Farrah Nickerson, Alex Carothers and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

VIII. Announcements

Next regular scheduled governing council meeting on the fourth Friday would be the day after Thanksgiving so we will be moving it next month, likely to the third Friday, but that is the same day as the PEC meeting. Larry Kennedy asked administration to send out a poll as to what other dates would work for members of the committee.

IX. Adjournment *

Larry Kennedy called for a motion to adjourn. Alex Carothers made a motion to adjourn. Farrah Nickerson seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy asked Amanda Catanzaro to call roll. Amanda Catanzaro called Roland Dewing, Farrah Nickerson, Alex Carothers and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

The Regular Meeting of the Governing Council for the Albuquerque Aviation Academy adjourned on October 23, 2026 at 2:49 PM.