



GOVERNING COUNCIL

Regular Meeting of the Albuquerque Aviation Academy Governing Council on
Friday, September 25, 2026

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

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Mike Romo

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

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

PUBLIC

none

These minutes were approved on 10/23/2026

By a vote of 5 yes 0 no 1 absent 0 abstained

Larry Kennedy President

Roland Dewing Secretary

I. Call to Order

Larry Kennedy called to order the Regular Meeting of the Governing Council for the Albuquerque Aviation Academy for September 25, 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 Alex Carothers, Roland Dewing, Laura Kohr (via Zoom), Farrah Nickerson (via Zoom), and Larry Kennedy.

B. Adoption of the Agenda*

Larry Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the agenda moving the Finance Report up following Public Comment. Farrah Nickerson made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Alex Carothers seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy asked Amanda Catanzaro to call roll. Amanda Catanzaro called Alex Carothers, Roland Dewing, Laura Kohr, Farrah Nickerson and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Review/Approval of Minutes from August 28, 2026 Regular Meeting*

Larry Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the minutes from August 28, 2026 Regular Meeting. Farrah Nickerson made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Alex Carothers seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy asked Amanda Catanzaro to call roll. Amanda Catanzaro called Alex Carothers, Roland Dewing, Laura Kohr, Farrah Nickerson 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. Finance Report

A. Business Office Operations Update

Sean Fry presented that the Finance Committee met prior to the meeting and reviewed the financial statements through August 2026. Currently, the school has received 16.95% of budgeted funding and spent 9.33%. Revenues exceeded expenditures by \$6992.55 and the business office is in a good groove at this point. AP is being completed approximately three times per month now.

PED Performance Framework now requires a few new reports that will be included in the monthly GC reports from now on. Reviewed each of these new reports.

No abnormal payments last month, but one stop payment charge and reissue of the payment.

B. Voucher Approvals for August 2026 *

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

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

C. Bank Reconciliation for August 2026 *

Sean Fry presented the August Bank Reconciliation. There are five outstanding items, the oldest only being 31 days old so none are in danger of going stale. The Finance Committee can support the approval.

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

D. Budget Adjustment Requests: BAR 2627-11000-00004-T

Sean Fry presented BAR 2627-11000-00004-T, a transfer BAR moving budget authority within the same fund. Funds will be coming from Other Instructional Materials fund to the 2400 function, 2600 function, and 2700 function. These are due to finalization of FTE allocations after budget, inclusion of a grant writer service to help with some of the grants the school utilizes, and makes all sub functions within operations positive.

Larry Kennedy asked for a motion to approve BAR 2627-11000-00004-T. Alex Carothers made a motion. Farrah Nickerson seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy asked Amanda Catanzaro to call roll. Amanda Catanzaro called Alex Carothers, Roland Dewing, Laura Kohr, Farrah Nickerson and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. Ongoing Business Matters

A. Aviation Committee Update

Alex Carothers stated the committee met prior to this meeting and discussed the status of students and the planes.

B. B. Aviation Program Update

Dr. Chavez presented that they have flown 20.2 hours in Hotel Kilo and 16.9 hours in Addison. Weather this week has played a factor and postponed a few scheduled flights.

Classes are going well. In AIA, there are a few students that still have not passed their General Knowledge Exam and will be dropped. Tried to give them some extra time after the summer and they still have not done their part. This will result in four or five students being dropped in early October; one of these students is a senior and therefore will not have time to complete their license prior to graduation. Doc will be in contact with each of their parents.

Exciting news! Three recent graduates have been accepted into the Air Traffic Control (ATC) training programs and one joined the Marines for ATC training.

LEOFI is this weekend and Hotel Kilo and some of our drones will be on display and taking footage of the event.

Reviewed expenses for the month.

Question was asked if we let ATC Tower know about the former students since each of them did an internship with tower while they were students and they have been notified. Question was also asked if the ATC Tower art contest winners have been able to do their tour. Unsure at this time but winners were notified.

V. Administrative Update

A. Student Achievement Update

Bridget Barrett presented that our current enrollment is 323. At this time last year, it was 316 so we are up slightly. There has been a focus at the beginning of this year to really give students an understanding of the ins and outs of Edgenuity and provide them extra support in getting the hang of the program.

Daily Attendance Rate for August was 97.3% and for September so far is 95.3%. Attendance letters have gone out and the Dean of Students is reaching out and working with families.

Overall Grades vs Actual Grades show that the students *can* do the work with quality results, we just have to get them back on track. Teachers are working on creating individualized plans to help students succeed and get back on track.

Lots of activities are going on including sports and E-Sports. We will have a Trunk or Treat event on October 30th. Senior Sunrise breakfast was a couple of weeks ago and went really well and the students had a great time!

Reviewed detailed breakdown of Actual Grades by Grade Level. 8th grade and 11th grade are lagging the most.

VI. New Business Matters

A. 2025-2026 Published Testing Scores

Amanda Catanzaro shared the final scores as published by PED for the annual state testing. Albuquerque Aviation Academy scored a proficiency rate of 64% in ELA, 42% in Math and 59% in Science, almost identical to preliminary scores shared at previous meeting. ELA rate actually was higher at 64% then initial calculation of 63%. Compared to State of New Mexico scores of 43% proficiency in ELA, 26% in Math and 33% in Science.

B. 2025-2026 School Report Card via NM Vistas *

Amanda Catanzaro shared the NM Vistas printout and stated that this is published and available online for all schools. Reviewed and discussed various sections of the report.

Larry Kennedy asked for a motion to accept the 2025-2026 School Report Card as provided in NM Vistas. Alex Carothers made the motion. Laura Kohr seconded the motion. Larry Kennedy asked Amanda Catanzaro to call roll. Amanda Catanzaro called Alex Carothers, Roland Dewing, Laura Kohr, Farrah Nickerson and Larry Kennedy; all voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

C. 2026-2027 BOY Short Cycle Assessment Data

Amanda Catanzaro shared the Beginning of Year Short Cycle Assessment Data. For middle school, we use the iMSSA assessment and for high school we use the STARS Renaissance assessment. We have used this data to create intervention groupings and provide the teachers with information to help them create lessons and assist students that need additional support.

Discussion about the results of the STARS Renaissance assessment not correlating with SAT scores and looking at alternative short cycle assessments that might give us more useful data. One option would be to use the PSAT9, but that would be a snapshot assessment instead of growth over time. Question and discussion that we use the PSAT10 in the fall of 10th grade that makes them eligible for the National Merit Scholarship.

VII. Governing Council Development

Larry stated that there will be none this month. Kelly will be at the meeting in October. The Governing Council chose Option 2. Kelly would like the Governing Council to think about doing a 5 hour retreat to set goals for the year.

VIII. Announcements

Next regular scheduled governing council meeting is scheduled for 10/23/2026 at 2:00 pm.

IX. Adjournment *

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

The Regular Meeting of the Governing Council for the Albuquerque Aviation Academy adjourned on September 25, 2026 at 2:49 PM.