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**Mission**

RFK Charter School prepares, motivates, and supports students to achieve their college and career goals.  
in partnership with their families and the community.

**Governance Council Meeting  
Minutes Thursday,  
June 20, 2024  
4:30 p.m.**

RFK Governance Council President, Mark Walch called a regular Governance Council Meeting at 4:30pm.

**ALL Board Members:**

Mark Walch, President  
April Gallegos, Secretary  
Lawrence Barela  
LaNika Bullington

**Zoom:**

Carlos Cabarello  
Michele Coleman

**Excused:**

Bob Edgar  
Sylvia McCleary

**Absent:**

Angel Garcia

**Quorum:**

Yes

**Staff:**

Robert Baade  
Irene Sanchez  
Aaron Arellano  
Aradeli Ibarra  
Linda Sanchez  
Christina Mancha Alvarez

**Guests:**

Parent, Kristi Bechdol

**Approval of Agenda:**

GC President, Mark Walch makes a motion to accept the June 20, 2024, Meeting Agenda. GC Secretary, April Gallegos seconded the motion. With a unanimous, "Yes" vote and no one opposing. The Meeting Agenda for June 20, 2024, is accepted and carried out.

**Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes for May 20, 2024:**

GC Secretary, April Gallegos makes a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for May 20, 2024. GC Member, Lawrence Barela seconded the motion. With a unanimous, “Yes” vote and no one opposing, the Regular Meeting Minutes for May 20, 2024, have been accepted and carried out.

**Public Comment:**

RFK HS teacher, Christina Mancha Alvarez, reported to GC members about the Summer Math Credit Recovery Program currently taking place at RFK. The program runs from June 6, 2024, through July 3, 2024. With two sessions available. Session one is Algebra 1 and Geometry A. Which runs from 9am to 11am. Session two is Geometry B running from 2pm to 4pm. These sessions are designed specifically for credit recovery purposes.

**Removal of Board Member:**

With five members for and one opposing, the majority votes to “Table” this “Action” until the next GC meeting.

**PED Site Visit:**

Linda Sanchez reported on the School Support and Readiness Assessment Monitoring Site Visit. The report highlights Robert F. Kennedy Charter School’s numerous successes and achievements for the current academic year. While emphasizing RFK’s offerings in culture, equity, leadership, instructional infrastructure, ELA, math, and graduation. Each member received a copy of the report, which was also attached to the meeting minutes.

**Middle School Report:**

MS Principle, Aaron Arellano reports:

Teachers/Academics:

- Teachers are in the homestretch as they prep for semester finals and wrap up another year.
- Students completed their last round (EOY) Star testing in both reading and mathematics (middle school will be finishing with make-up testing tomorrow for math). The most improved from the MOY (December) will receive gift cards at the current meeting.
- While supporting our students academically, some teachers are also trying to support students by taking them out of the classroom as well as exploring surrounding areas. We had our 7<sup>th</sup> graders walk to the bosque earlier this week, next week, our 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be completing some team-building activities off campus at Jungle Jam. (Hopefully, they are also able to release some extra energy while there.)

MS Partners:

- Enlace Comunitario wrapped up their programming and met with MS staff. We are hopeful to continue this partnership next year, over the course of the school year. We are talking about initially starting with in-class programming, then adding an after-school piece.
- PB&J and New Mexicans Against Gun Violence are also wrapping up their programming with the MS. Additionally, we hope to continue to be able to work with both partners next school year. I spoke with both partners, and we will be meeting soon to plan next year’s programming.
- Both Robert and I met with Nature Ninos, we are discussing next year’s partnership, as well as other opportunities for the school (MS and HS).

Advisory:

- 8<sup>th</sup> graders continue to work through the JHU (Johns Hopkins University) 4S (Skills for Secondary School Success) curriculum as we wrap up the pilot year.
- 8<sup>th</sup> graders are also working to complete their Next Step plans (these are plans that get started in MS and stay with the students through HS. It contains goals for every year, course tracker, etc. This is a state requirement.)
- Freckle continues to be a component of the MS Advisory classes and will continue through the end of the school year.
- The High Dosage tutoring wrapped up last week. As I shared last month, we will be continuing with High Dosage tutoring next school year as well. We also learned that once again, our 7<sup>th</sup> graders were randomly selected for this for the coming school year. This opportunity will continue next year.

Student Count:

- Current Enrollment at the MS – 71 students (18 – 6<sup>th</sup> graders, 22 – 7<sup>th</sup> graders, and 31 – 8<sup>th</sup> graders).

Attendance:

- We are continuing to monitor students’ attendance and meetings with parents/families as needed. Unfortunately, we’ve had another situation where we have been unsuccessful with making contact, and home visit was also done. The student is scheduled

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Commented [GU2R1]: You have that right

to meet with us next week. Failure to attend the meeting and the student will unfortunately be dropped to do to non-attendance. We will continue with our interventions to avoid dropping students.

#### **RFK Equity Council Update**

Mr. Arellano states:

“I attended the state Equity Meeting earlier this month. I continue to be reassured that RFK is a great spot to take our Equity Work to the next level by including the students. I would like to see the Student Advisory Council at the HS continue. I would also like to see some of those students join the Equity Council to help guide our work. I would also like to include students from the MS student council as well. We’ve learned a lot from our students already! I can see how this can really impact the Equity work taking place at RFK.

The work of the Equity Council will be shifting to begin the process of documenting work. To ensure the work being done doesn’t stop with one person, and in fact, continues when there are changes to staff/personnel. In conversations with other schools and our “Equity Hub Leader”, this is a natural “next step” for the Equity Council moving forward. We will continue to work on advisement to Leadership regarding school needs from the voices of students, staff, and community.”

#### **Finance Committee Report:**

GC Member, Lawrence Barela makes a motion to approve the Finance Report for May 2024. GC President, Mark Walch seconded the motion. With a unanimous “Yes” vote and no one opposing. Finance Report for May 2024 is accepted and carried out.

#### **Cash Disbursements for May 2024:**

GC Member, LaNika Bullington makes a motion to approve Cash Disbursements for May 2024 for \$501,927.23. GC Secretary, April Gallegos seconded the motion. With a unanimous “Yes” vote and no one opposing, Cash Disbursements for \$501,927.23 are accepted and carried out.

#### **GASB 96 Policy:**

GC Secretary, April Gallegos makes a motion to approve GASB 96 Policy. GC Member, Lawrence Barela seconded the motion. With a Unanimous Yes Vote and no one opposing. The GASB 96 policy is accepted and carried out.

#### **Executive Director Evaluation/ Contract:**

GC Member, Lawrence Barela makes a motion to approve Executive Director evaluation and contract. GC Member, Carlos Caballero seconded the motion. With a Unanimous “Yes” Vote and no one opposing. The Executive Director evaluation and contract is accepted and carried out.

#### **High School & Executive Director’s Report:**

Executive Director, Robert Baade reports:

As the year comes to an end, a few things have happened such as:

- PED has met with RFK regarding the status of in “Need of Rigorous Intervention”. Progress was reviewed and new goals were identified.
- New staff have been hired to fill all positions needed. Which includes, three high quality Educational Assistants and a new HS principle. She will begin working with Robert on July 2<sup>nd</sup> and will officially start on July 15<sup>th</sup>.
- RFK has received \$125,000.00 for school improvements and will allocate to address attendance and an instructional coach.
- RFK has received budget authority for the Innovative Zone Grant of \$100,000.00 and will allocate to cover existing staff needs and will free up operational funds for necessary school operation.
- RFK and SWEPT will continue to partner to support the Capstone Program to connect students to organizations for internships, externships and stipends.
- The design of the new career technical building is moving forward. Scheduled meetings with the architect, general contractors and APS will take place during the first week of July.
- Mr. Baade expressed his appreciation to GC members who attended the Charter School Conference.
- Lastly, Mr. Baade will be traveling to Michigan to meet with the Kellogg Foundation and attend a conference with administrators from around the country.

HS Report:

- Several mural projects are happening, and Mr. Baade encourages GC members to view them. All are very impressive!
- Two YCC programs are taking place. RFK and CNM have partnered to instruct an entrepreneurial class over the summer as well.
- Summer classes will include Math Academy to give students credit recovery in algebra and possibly give an advanced geometry credit for the upcoming year. There is also credit recovery for English to those who did not pass Language Arts.

**Housekeeping: training hours & conflict of interest forms:**

There will be a Board Retreat on Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup> |10:00am – 12:30pm| at the South Valley Economic Development Center. There will also be a GC Board Meeting following the Retreat.

**Adjourn:**

GC Member, LaNika Bullington makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. GC Member, Lawrence Barela seconds the motion. President, Mark Walch adjourns at 6:26pm

**Next meeting:**

July 27, 2024

**Minutes by:**

*RFK GC Board Secretary, April Gallegos*  
*RFK MS Office Manager, Aradeli Ibarra*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Governance Council Secretary Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

Commented [GU3]: Are these the right times?

Commented [AG4R3]: This is going to be a GC Meeting as well. So add 90 min to it

Commented [AG5R3]: I will submit like this and request to get all of the stuff missing so I can add.

DRAFT