Governing Council Regular Meeting

Held virtually on Google Meet

35 La Lama Rd, Questa, NM 87556

**5 pm, July 20, 2021**

The RWCS Governing Council may take any agenda item out of order to better facilitate the business at hand.

1. Opening Business
   1. Call to Order at 5:04pm
   2. Roll Call-

Erica Lannon- GC Member-present

Aline Robertson- GC Member-present

Robin Mayo- GC Member-present

Jerrod Rowlison- Elliot- GC Member-absent

Amelia Eshleman- GC Member-present

We have a quorum

Others Attending:

Jon Orris- School Director

Sarah Pina- School Business Manager

Veronica Garcia- School Administrative Assistant

* 1. Motion for Approval of Agenda made by Aline Robertson and second by Amelia Eshleman. Amelia Eshleman, Robin Mayo, Aline Robertson and Erica Lannon vote in the affirmative. Motion Carries.
  2. Motion for Approval of Special Meeting Minutes with amendments to show members present by Aline Robertson and second by Amelia Eshleman. Amelia Eshleman, Robin Mayo, Aline Robertson and Erica Lannon vote in the affirmative. Motion Carries. Motion to table approval of the June regular meeting minutes made by Robin Mayo and second by Aline Robertson. Amelia Eshleman, Robin Mayo, Aline Robertson and Erica Lannon vote in the affirmative. Motion carries.
  3. Mission Moment-we got our fully executed contract and for the next 5 years we will be evaluated on meeting our mission.

1. Public Comment- Group “We the people are back”-Melody Swan, Dr. Gerald Smalling, Karen Olsen. Melody Swan was approached by Robin Mayo who attends Roots and Wings. She is very impressed with the school. Melody wanted to discuss the dangers that masks do to children physically and psychologically. The intention is the governing council does what is best for the children. The masks are a mandate and not a law. There is no evidence that says the masks are effective to stop the spread. The group is available if we choose to unmask the children to give support. Dr. Gerald Smalling states the purpose of the masks are made to stop the spread of the virus, every study for 25 years shows they do not do that. Evidence shows masks accelerate the infections. The masks spread the pressure as people breathe. Schools that are unmasked have much less infection. A study that came out in June from the AMA shows there are no masks that are made for children. It is worse for a child with the less air space and they breathe carbon dioxide and reduce oxygen intake. Each time the children take a breath in and out, it is causing them harm. Parents need to have informed consent. Karen Olsen feels just as strongly as the others. If this was happening when her children were in school, she would have pulled them out and not submitted them to this. Suggests we look at the information that Dr. Smalling has and believes it is dire that we unmask our children. A written public comment from Gemma Diferdinando states it is violating our rights. Children need hope, not masks. She doesn’t believe to point thermometer against their head. Ginger Pizzuro came to support the group and agrees with them.
2. Action Items
   1. Board Membership. No action taken.
   2. Board Officers- Motion to elect Aline Robertson as the new president of the board by Robin Mayo and second by Amelia Eshleman. Amelia Eshleman, Robin Mayo and Erica Lannon vote in the affirmative. Aline Robertson abstains. Motion Carries. Motion to elect Erica as the new Vice President of the board by Aline Robertson second by Robin Mayo. Amelia Eshleman, Robin Mayo and Aline Robertson vote in the affirmative. Erica abstains. Motion Carries. Aline Robertson makes a motion to elect Robin Mayo as secretary and second by Amelia Eshleman. Amelia Eshleman, Aline Robertson and Erica Lannon vote in the affirmative. Robin Mayo abstains. Motion Carries. Erica Lannon appoints Jerrod Rowlison-Elliot to finance and audit.
   3. ~~Budget Adjustment Requests-~~
3. Informational/Discussion Items
   1. Directors Report- discussed surveillance testing for staff.
   2. Finance Committee Report- We reviewed May and June, business as normal and end of year payments. Hillcrest did not take our ACH’s out until a month later and they were charging fees on our account. Jon finished setting up our account with Questa Credit union. We should be able to transfer our accounts smoothly. Hillcrest refunded the fees they charged. Hillcrest took all the payments out at once called pre-fund.
   3. Facility Report (Jon-update on the modular project)- Were still working with Alix Henry. We need to send a letter to the state for our interest in the 2 modulars in Taos. Jon will check them out to make sure they are in good condition. We are moving forward.
   4. [notice to cease and desist all school and athletics mask mandates](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1r3CdByvvIHiqmMq5xgcqw9N5b_qx5Wzu/view?usp=sharing) - 1 document is the cease and desist, the other is our attorney’s response to it. The cease and desist was sent in a mass email to educators. We discussed what was in the document.
4. Board Development
   1. Retreat will happen on Saturday August 28th
5. Closing Business
   1. Next Meeting will take place on August 17th at 5pm
   2. Adjournment at 6:37