



## New Mexico Public Education Commission (PEC)

### Governing Body Member Change Notification Instructions

**Purpose:** To notify the Public Education Commission (PEC) of a change in a member of the school's Governing Body.

**Submission Deadline:** Changes to the Governing Body membership do not require prior approval of the PEC; however, notice must be received within 30 calendar days of the change.

Notifications completed 14 days prior to the next PEC meeting will be placed on the next agenda. Notifications of this type are typically placed on the consent agenda; however, any notification may be removed from the consent agenda and moved to the regular agenda for full discussion and possible action by the PEC.

Meeting minutes of the governing board of the school and the PEC will serve as an amendment to, or compliance with, the charter contract regarding this membership change. The documentation will be added to the board of finance documentation on file with CSD.

#### **The school must provide:**

- Fully completed form
- Approved board minutes or certification of the board's vote accepting the new member
- Resignation Letter or board meeting minutes removing the previous member
- Statement of Governing Body Member to Consult with PED
- Affidavit of Governing Body Member
- Assurances of Governing Body Member

Contact [charter.schools@state.nm.us](mailto:charter.schools@state.nm.us) with questions about completing or submitting documents.

## Governing Body Member Change Notification Form

Submit this form and all supporting documents to [charter.schools@ped.nm.gov](mailto:charter.schools@ped.nm.gov)

The Charter Contract was entered into by and between the New Mexico Public Education Commission (PEC) and Albuquerque Bilingual Academy, hereafter "the school," effective on 7/1/2020.

**Current Governing Body Members and Positions:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**New Governing Body Member(s) and Position(s):** Click or tap here to enter text.

**Contact information for New Governing Body Member(s) (phone, email):** Click or tap here to enter text.

**Number of personnel changes (Head Administrator/Business Manager/Procurement Officer, Governing Board Member), including this change, submitted to PEC in the last 12 months:** Resignation- Julian Munoz    Resignation-Eric Saavedra

**Effective Date:** 6/29/2023

The school's notification is hereby submitted by: Kyle Hunt, Business Manager

**Signature of School Representative:**  \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** 7/11/2023

**Signature of Governing Board Chair:**  \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** 7/11/23

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For PEC/CSD use only

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**PEC Meeting Date:**

**Agenda:**  Consent (typical)       Regular (unusual circumstance)

**The school's notification was:**  Accepted       Rejected (provide reason)

**Electronic signature of CSD Director:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



Kyle Hunt &lt;khunt@lpec.com&gt;

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**Resignation- Julian Munoz**

1 message

**Julian Munoz** <munoz\_julian@hotmail.com>

Thu, Jun 29, 2023 at 1:57 PM

To: "bbaca@lpec.com" <bbaca@lpec.com>, Jose Garcia <uneekconstructionjag@gmail.com>, Eric Saavedra <esaavedra@unm.edu>, Tiffany Bazan <tiffany\_bazan@yahoo.com>, Chris Jones <cjones@lpec.com>, "pmatthews@matthewsfox.com" <pmatthews@matthewsfox.com>, Kyle Hunt <khunt@lpec.com>

To whom it my concern,

Please accept this letter as my formal resignation from any role with the Albuquerque Bilingual Academy Governing Council effective immediately as of June 29 2023.

I need to resign due to, in my opinion, a strong desire by the governing council members to deviate from and to not adhere to the governing council processes/policies over the past few months.

I have noted that ever since these accusations were communicated, the governing council has been in turmoil. The relationship between head administrator and governing council should be one of respect, support, and open communication. Instead, the governing council have resorted to using gossip and the breaking of confidentiality as a way, in my opinion, to stymie the 3rd party investigations. Unfortunately, these tactics directly oppose my personal philosophy, which advocates following the established processes/policies of the governing council and reviewing the facts as they become available. There was a rush to judgement when the governing council should have been patient waiting for the facts.

It is unconscionable for me to volunteer in such an environment, since in my opinion, the actions of the governing council are putting the school in a position to be held legally liable for its actions and failure to follow its own policies/processes.

Regards,

Julian Munoz

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Kyle Hunt &lt;khunt@lpehc.com&gt;

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**Resignation - Eric Saavedra**

1 message

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**Eric Saavedra** <esaavedra@unm.edu>

Thu, Jun 29, 2023 at 3:04 PM

To: Julian Munoz <munoz\_julian@hotmail.com>, Brenda Baca <bbaca@lpehc.com>, Jose Garcia <uneekconstructionjag@gmail.com>, "tiffany\_bazan@yahoo.com" <tiffany\_bazan@yahoo.com>, Chris Jones <cjones@lpehc.com>, "pmatthews@matthewsfox.com" <pmatthews@matthewsfox.com>, Kyle Hunt <khunt@lpehc.com>

To whom it may concern,

I am resigning from the Albuquerque Bilingual Academy Governing Council effective immediately as of June 29, 2023.

I am resigning due to fundamental differences with the majority of the council members. These differences have led to frustrating conversations and the feeling that my voice is not heard very well. I feel because of these differences, I am not able to perform my duties as a Council Member. Thank you for the opportunity, and wish you all well.

Thank you,

Eric Saavedra



## **ABA GOVERNANCE COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA**

**July 18, 2023 5:30 PM**

**Albuquerque Bilingual Academy, 7500 La Morada NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120**

**7/18/2023 Virtual Meeting URL:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7648934918?pwd=KzVzOHdORGhmWkM3SmZ3O0R3OWxiZz09>

### **ABA Regular GC Meeting– July 18, 2023; 5:30 PM**

- I. Call to Order
  - a. Roll Call
  - b. Approval of July 18, 2023 Agenda

### **Special Issues (Discussion/Action)**

- II. Change in Governing Council Members
- III. Review of GC Bylaws
- IV. Potential New GC members
- V. Presentation/PSA of Matthews Fox, LLP
- VI. Presentation/PSA of Cuddy Mccarthy LLP
- VII. Public Comment  
Sign Up Form for public comment  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfv13kI2YEm7RcRXKnCEptF2-daY\\_AYCObPJBzSR5WapuOuMw/viewform?usp=sf link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfv13kI2YEm7RcRXKnCEptF2-daY_AYCObPJBzSR5WapuOuMw/viewform?usp=sf_link)
- VIII. Announcement of Next ABA GC Meeting – **Monday, July 24th, 2023; 5:30 pm**
- IX. Adjournment

#### **STATEMENT ON OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

The ABA Governing Council welcomes public comments during the "Public Comment" portion of the governing council meeting agenda. Individuals wishing to make public comments shall complete a Public Comment form and submit it to the Council President prior to the "Public Comment" section of the meeting. Individual oral presentations will be limited to 5 minutes, unless extended by the Council President.

#### **STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION**

ABA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services. Persons requiring special accommodations should contact the administrative office at 836- 7706 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

**Albuquerque Bilingual Academy**  
**ABA GC Special Meeting Minutes for Virtual Meeting**  
**Date: July 18, 2023**

<b>Board Members Present</b>	Jose Garcia (zoom), Tiffany Bazan (in-person), Brenda Baca (in-person)	
<b>Absent</b>		
<b>Others in Attendance</b>	Zoom: Chris Jones, Kyle Hunt, Danielle Miranda, Monica Chavez, Cecy Barffuson-Franco, Diana Diaz, Julianna Montoya, Laura Castille, Lucy Valenzuela, Marissa Rios, Missy Brown, Toni Bazan, Yeni Lopez, ABA GC Conference Room, Chris Mott In-Person @ABA: Yvette Barnwell, Bianca Olona-Elwell, Ludmila Layne, Juliet Rubi, Christie Graham, Vilma Sarmiento, Marti Chavez, Vondie Burrola, Georgina Gaspar, Monique Garcia, Roseanne Ibarra, Nevaeha Garcia, Jonice Tovar, Angelica Campa, Estela Corral, Karen Bica, Osbaldo Chacon, Cinthia Caraveo, Shawn Kristoff, Alondra Chacon, Yobana Ruvalcaba, Lisseth Esqueda, Vanessa Valentin, Patricia Jaurrieta, Cynthia Guido, Erika Bueno Marin, Dr. Cindy Segura, Gabriela Chacon, Monica Hernandez, Alexander Hernandez, Dalia Miramontes, Giovanni Paz, Margarita Licano, Javier Alonso	
<b>QUORUM</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>YES</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>NO</b>	
<b>Meeting called to order</b>	Jose Garcia called the meeting to order at <u>5:43 pm</u> & Roll Call by Jose Garcia	
<b>Item</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action/Recommendation</b>
<b>Approval of the Agenda</b>	07/18/2023 <u>Graham:</u> I have a question. What I read in our charter contract, we are required by all times to have five sitting members on the board and we only have three. So at this point, we don't have a quorum. <u>Brown:</u> I can answer that for you if you'd like. So five in the minimum required; you clearly don't have five right now because you had two resignations. But a quorum of five is three and so you have a quorum to vote. <u>Garcia:</u> Thank you, ma'am. Did anybody else have any other questions? Since I'm on a video call, Ms. Brenda, my secretary, would you mind taking over the meeting since you're there in-person? <u>Baca:</u> Missy, is that ok if I do that? <u>Brown:</u> Since he asked you to, that is fine.	Jose Garcia called for a motion to approve the agenda. Brenda Baca motioned. Tiffany Bazan seconded. -Jose Garcia called for a vote. GC approved unanimously by a vote of 3-0; 0 opposed; 0 abstained
<b>Special Issues (Discussion/Action)</b>		
<b>Change in Governing Council Members</b>	<u>Parent:</u> Can you guys translate for the Spanish? <u>Baca:</u> Sarmiento, can you translate in Spanish? You don't mind? <u>Sarmiento:</u> Everything? <u>Baca:</u> Yeah, whatever I am saying. I'll say it slow. There's public comment at the end of the meeting. <u>Barnwell:</u> She didn't know that the vote was being finalized. <u>Sarmiento:</u> She wants to talk. <u>Baca:</u> Yeah, she can talk at the end of the meeting. <u>Sarmiento:</u> But she wants to do it now before the voting. <u>Graham:</u> Hey, Ms. Brown, Mr. Brown. <u>Brown:</u> Public cannot make comment at this time. The public has to wait until the time on the agenda at which they can be recognized.	Brenda Baca called for a motion to change the officers. Tiffany Bazan motioned. Jose Garcia seconded. -Brenda Baca called for a vote. GC approved unanimously by a vote of 3-0; 0 opposed; 0 abstained  Tiffany Bazan nominated Jose as president. Brenda Baca seconded. -Brenda Baca called for a vote. GC approved unanimously by a vote of 3-0; 0 opposed; 0 abstained  Brenda Baca nominated Tiffany Bazan as vice president. Jose Garcia seconded. -Brenda Baca called for a vote. GC approved unanimously by a vote of 3-0; 0 opposed; 0 abstained  Tiffany Bazan nominated Brenda Baca as secretary. Jose Garcia seconded. -Brenda Baca called for a vote. GC approved unanimously by a vote of 3-0; 0 opposed; 0 abstained
<b>Review of GC Bylaws</b>	<u>Jones:</u> I'd like to comment prior to you guys moving forward. I think the purpose of that section because you are introducing a new potential board member, was to review one specific section. Not to necessarily make any revisions or amend them. So that would be Article 7 positions and qualifications. I think just very quickly is what I would like to do is review that section along with the three board members that remain. If that's ok? I first of all would like to ask permission from Mr. Garcia who is now residing over the board. <u>Garcia:</u> There's not going to be no changes to this? <u>Jones:</u> No, it's a simple review and if you'd like to lead it Mr. Garcia you're more than welcome. What I wanted to do was ensure that we were meeting the requirements of our bylaws. The bylaws state that we have some specific requirements not only for the on-boarding but for the committee that's to bring potential board members to the meetings for consideration. But most importantly, it does state what we're looking for what it comes to qualifications. So you're more than welcome to review that if that is something that you guys want to table that is entirely up to you as the president. <u>Garcia:</u> You know what, let's go ahead and table it for now.	Brenda Baca called for a motion to table this item. Tiffany Bazan motioned. Jose Garcia seconded. -Brenda Baca called for a vote. GC approved unanimously by a vote of 3-0; 0 opposed; 0 abstained

	<p><i>*Item tabled until next meeting</i></p>	
<p><b>Potential New GC members</b></p>	<p><u>Baca:</u> We can go ahead and interview the people that want to be GC members. I think we have a couple people on zoom, if I'm correct. Right, Mr. Garcia isn't there a gentleman that want to be on our board that are on zoom?</p> <p><u>Garcia:</u> I believe he is on here.</p> <p><u>Mott:</u> Yes, I'm on here. My name is Chris Mott. My daughter Alyssa Mott goes to the school. The reason for me wanting to do this is to try and help my daughter and the other kids in the school get the best academic and extracurricular activities and an experience for them. I would also like to maintain a positive experience for my children in this school hopefully for many years. I don't know what you guys want to hear from me right now, if you have questions or anything like that, I'd be happy to answer anything.</p> <p><u>Baca:</u> I do. Can you tell us and go a little bit more on what kind of community things because the bylaws say that we need to be more, it says bring in community members of promotion. They want to see the candidate of the GC what professional skills you can offer, problem solving skills that you can demonstrate for us, what can you do for us as a board member if we bring you on?</p> <p><u>Mott:</u> Well, I believe as far as my experience goes I am in charge of 11 automotive shops in the state of NM. I have quite a few people under me, over 100 people that are underneath me. So, I think my ability to get people to work together on all levels, I think is fairly good. I think I can usually attain a solution, usually positive, for most obstacles that I adhere to in my business. I think that I could bring that back to the table to help you guys and the school for that matter and see what I can do to help.</p> <p><u>Baca:</u> Do you have any questions? Mr. Garcia?</p> <p><u>Garcia:</u> No, that actually sounds really good. It sounds like you're in charge of a lot of people.</p> <p><u>Mott:</u> Yeah, it is a little challenging but I'm up for the task to help you guys as well, if possible.</p> <p><u>Baca:</u> Excuse me, a parent wants to ask a question.</p> <p><u>Parent:</u> I think our parents are not understanding what is going on. We can't translate what is going on if you keep going on and on and on.</p> <p><u>Baca:</u> Ok, we have to talk a little bit slower.</p> <p><u>M.Garcia:</u> They should have a translator for this evening. We have families that speak Spanish. Who did not see that? Who was in charge of that? Who was not in charge of getting a translator here? Mr. Hunt? Mr. Jones?</p> <p><u>Bazan:</u> They are asking for us to get a translator for next meeting because there is Spanish speaking parents here that don't know what's going on.</p> <p><u>Hunt:</u> Of course, we can absolutely make those accommodations. Just for future notice, if you do plan to attend a meeting we do make all available accommodations to make sure that everyone can hear or understand appropriately. We do request that those accommodations are requested 72 hours in advance of the meeting though.</p> <p><u>Jones:</u> I'd like to add to that as well. I'm not sure of the dialogue in the background, I couldn't necessarily hear everyone. I heard a couple of comments possibly from Mrs. Garcia. I do want to say, I want to reiterate what Kyle said, but I also do want to mention that our out-going board president was fluent and was responsible for the translations and willing to do so. But you, to Kyles point we can definitely accommodate that is not an issue. We did have a bilingual Spanish speaking member who resigned unfortunately. But we will make every accommodation necessary. So thank you for your requests.</p> <p><u>Parent:</u> I just think it is kind of odd that at a bilingual school. I think at every meeting it should be expected. We are in a bilingual program, correct?</p> <p><u>Baca:</u> Mr. Garcia is there anyone else on zoom that wants to speak?</p> <p><u>Garcia:</u> I believe there was, let me see. I don't know if they're on here though.</p> <p><u>Baca:</u> We have a gentleman named Sean back here, is that who you're looking for?</p> <p><u>Garcia:</u> Yeah, Sean there you go. Is Sean there in-person?</p> <p><u>Baca:</u> Yes, he is.</p> <p><u>Garcia:</u> Ok, would you like to go ahead and present Shawn?</p> <p><u>Baca:</u> Thank you, Mr. Mott. We're going to bring in Shawn who wants to be on the board.</p> <p><u>Burrola:</u> I just have a quick question. Could we have like one person translating and one person speaking in English? These ladies are doing such a great job explaining but then it's causing more background and I don't know if anyone online is able to hear because it is causing a lot of the background noise. And I know the public's not supposed to be speaking now but it kind of makes it a little bit more where we can't understand what is being said.</p> <p><u>Baca:</u> Ok, thank you. Miranda, Shawn Kristoff is going to speak now.</p> <p><u>Kristoff:</u> My name is Shawn Kristoff and I have a daughter who's a member of this community; she is down the street on Unser and Blake. They definitely will benefit from a school like this. I can see your guys' frustrations as I been sitting here for the first 20-25 minutes. I'm gonna give you a little bit of background about me. I spent a little bit over 15+ years in hospitality, ending my career with COVID as a regional director, big-time corporation. Managing and directing people, all over the nation. I decided to get a career in education myself. I'm a 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher for Rio Rancho Public Schools. I feel that I have education and work background support in any effort that I bring forth. I have three master's degrees and I'm working on my doctorate now. With that</p>	<p>Brenda Baca called for a motion to nominate all three of these members to our board. Brenda Baca motioned. Tiffany Bazan seconded. -Brenda Baca called for a vote. GC approved unanimously by a vote of 3-0; 0 opposed; 0 abstained</p>

	<p>education, I feel like I can defiantly help you guys, strategize, and consult, so that way everything is done in an orderly fashion. I do have a LinkedIn, so anybody can definitely go in there and check out the validity of me. I got a lot of connections all over the place. I would be glad and happy to support ABA. My school stems from National American University to UNM Anderson School of Business, and I'm currently at University of Alabama.</p> <p><u>Baca:</u> Thank you. Thank you for your time.</p> <p><u>Guido:</u> Hi, my name is Cynthia Guido and I'm a community member. I'm also a realtor here in Abq. I am looking to get more involved in the community. A friend of mine told me about this and I thought it would be a great opportunity to lend my expertise. I have a degree in business management. I have also been in the hospitality industry. But I believe that education is so important for our children to get a wonderful education. It helps them grow, it helps the community. I would really love to be a part of something that helps the children get that education. If you have any questions, let me know.</p> <p><u>Baca:</u> Anybody else online, in-person want to give us a spill?</p>	
<p><b>Presentation/PSA of Matthews Fox, LLP</b></p>	<p><u>Hunt:</u> Yes, I just wanted to make sure that we were aware that we did have multiple things. Matthews Fox is our prior lawyer. They did give us a PSA for this last year to renew and it was listed at \$275/hour. They've been our lawyers for the last three years. But they are not currently on the call, I believe. So, we have that document, it's been given to the GC before. Since we've already presented this PSA, there probably doesn't need a presentation to it. There is another presentation from Cuddy McCarthy, if the GC would like to move to that one?</p> <p><u>Baca:</u> Yes, please.</p>	
<p><b>Presentation/PSA of Cuddy McCarthy LLP</b></p>	<p><u>Baca:</u> Ok, we're ready for you. Presentation from Cuddy McCarthy.</p> <p><u>Helms:</u> My name is Carol Helms and I'm a partner with Cuddy McCarthy law firm. We have a very comprehensive education section of school law practice. We're experienced and we're a legend. We would be delighted to have the opportunity to work for this phenomenal facility. Great energy just sitting in this room. And to see parents and employees want to better their situation. We have a very strong reputation in the state for school law; it's because of years of experience and depth of knowledge. We have attorneys not all of us do every area of law but we have specialties within that. When we get a call from one of our school clients, we can get the person with the area of law that is being needed. We're fortunate to have online with us tonight is our senior associate Laura Castille.</p> <p><u>Castille:</u> Hello everyone, I'm joining by phone tonight so I don't know if you can actually see me at the moment, but hopefully you can hear me.</p> <p><u>Baca:</u> Yes, we can thank you.</p> <p><u>Helms:</u> Laura is a former administrator, high school principal, and then she went to law school and wanted to join us in our school law practice. She is a phenomenal senior associate. Before I went to law school, I was a teacher and a coach so I know what it looks like in the halls of the school. And Karen Kilgore, who is sitting to my left, Karen has at least 100 years of experience and that's hard to do when you're only 45. She is a great litigator. She works hard and has been such an essential part of our scope. So we hope we never have to get to court; our job is to try to get in and prevent the need. I want to just say a few things about what I can do, and give Karen an opportunity to do that, and Laura. The three things I want to emphasis is we know school law and we stay within the law and we try to help our clients understand that law. And sitting here tonight, I wrote down two things I really liked to do with schools and from where I understand which is very little, I just met a couple of you folks over the phone before we got here, we would be honored to serve this educational community and start with training so that we all understand the law. The other thing that I have done over the years and I got kind of excited thinking about that is helping with the planning and with your new members experience, I think this is a very right time to do that. Now, I'll pass this on to Karen.</p> <p><u>Kilgore:</u> Thank you. I agree with everything that Carol said. We are, our firm, is primarily a school law firm. However, we have additional lawyers to deal in things like business, real estate, and that kind of areas. I am a Taos High graduate and I grew up in NM. Last but not least, I want to emphasize what Carol said about training. We enjoy coming to schools and giving trainings for a small group or a large group; we'd love to do that for you all.</p> <p><u>Baca:</u> Laura, would you like to say something?</p> <p><u>Castille:</u> I would just like to say thank you for inviting us and giving us an opportunity to meet with you all and see your school community in action. I do a lot of work specifically with special education. General types of work with schools but more specifically around special education and Title 9 issues, those types of things. I think the emphasis on training, this is a perfect time as you're adding new members to your council, and working on sort of re-organizing your council. This is a great time for you all to get some training so that everyone is on the same page. We're really looking forward to the opportunity to work with you all.</p> <p><u>Baca:</u> Thank you.</p> <p><u>Helms:</u> And just to wrap that up, we all do have our own specialties. And I too, do a lot of special education. Primarily, I work with employment issues and sometimes struggling mortgage. Thank you.</p> <p><u>Baca:</u> Mr. Garcia, would you like to make a motion or it's up to you?</p>	<p>Jose Garcia called for a motion to hire the new legal counsel of Cuddy McCarthy LLP. Jose Garcia motioned. Tiffany Bazan seconded. -Brenda Baca called for a vote. GC approved unanimously by a vote of 3-0; 0 opposed; 0 abstained</p>



	<p><u>Jones:</u> Can I just interject very quickly? I know that the vote was already cast, I guess I just wanted to ask Mr. Garcia and Ms. Bazan as the new vice president, if you guys had the opportunity to review their costs, their rates? I know that the vote already took place but I don't know the decision if you guys had discussion prior? Or I don't know?</p> <p><u>Helms:</u> If I may, we did bring a professional services contract. I didn't realize you would be voting on us tonight. So if you wanted to table this until your next meeting, but we have it with us. I can tell you our hourly rates. Our partner rate per hour are \$250/per hour, associate rates are \$195/per hour, paralegal rates are \$95/per hour, and special education partner rates are \$230/per hour. And then we have the expenses that are charged in addition to the attorney fees and I'll give you some example. An example if we were to travel out of town and charge for copying, NM grocery taxes, and computer research expense. Thank you Mr. Jones for bringing that up.</p> <p><u>Jones:</u> You're very welcome, yeah.</p>	
<p><b>Public Comment</b></p>	<p><u>Baca:</u> Is there a sign-up for comment?</p> <p><u>Hunt:</u> Ms. Secretary, if I could interject there? We tried to do a sign-up form within the agenda itself on the announcement, we did only have one applicant respond to that. So, I did have Alex create a sign-up sheet that hopefully is going around the conference room for everyone to sign up for. So if you guys would like to begin with the electronic form while the other sign up sheet is passed around and we can begin recognizing people that way. I think that's be the best course of action.</p> <p><u>Graham:</u> I have a question actually and I'm going to direct it to Ms. Brown the charter school person. I guess I'm curious, I do better with information, and I'm curious, I think as a staff member, I think a lot of our parents, because we are primarily stakeholders if you will of the school, and I think we would appreciate if we understood this process that has taken place this evening. Because I feel blindsided by some of the things going on. And like now we have all these board members, people who are going to ultimately be making decisions that are going to affect us, you know the staff, the parents, the students. And I guess I'm curious as to what the process was for finding people to get some new blood to the board? Was there some kind of notification that went out or supposed to go out? Was there a process to be followed to do this? Because you know I thought a couple of people that I know from the community who probably could've been good contributors to the board, a small business owner.</p> <p><u>Baca:</u> I can answer. It's on the website. It's on our school website.</p> <p><u>Graham:</u> I'm sorry, let me. I'll wrap it up and then let her answer. I guess I'm curious as to how come or is it common practice that those of us who are so directly impacted by decisions being made with the parents, students, and the staff, do we not have any you know opportunity to be involved in this process and making these decisions. Because we cannot vote on who is on the board, we can't have prior knowledge of who might want to be on the board, and get to really ask questions and kind of get to know who we think is going to have be truly here for objective agendas that are really looking out for the greater good of the school community and not press personal agendas that people have you know about things they want to see happen. The direction they want to see the school take.</p> <p><u>Brown:</u> I will answer as the board cannot answer. They cannot respond to public comment in any meeting. I will respond. So this has been a normal, typical, charter school board meeting. A charter is held by the board of the school and they are responsible for board membership and their agendas. They have bylaws that determine their actions. They can amend those bylaws as they see fit. So if you as community members as stakeholders, want to have opportunities for more input, you use this format right now to say that you would like that and then the board could look at amending their bylaws to implement some type of process. Did I answer everything?</p> <p><u>Graham:</u> Yes, thank you.</p> <p><u>Brown:</u> But so that you all know in the future, you can ask questions during public comment, but you cannot get answers. The board cannot answer you; they can thank you for your comments; they can consider adding things to their next agenda. But they cannot respond to you because when they do that, they are acting as an individual and not as a board.</p> <p><u>Baca:</u> Cinthia?</p> <p><u>Cinthia:</u> So for the board positions, when were they advertised and how?</p> <p><u>Brown:</u> Again, they cannot answer you. So, they don't have to advertise for positions. They typically asking people that they know. There can be more robust ways of getting board members. The board has asked me to provide a training to them in person before the august meeting; I have agreed to do that. I want to go over the bylaws with them. I want to talk to them about the nominating process and some other things. So, I suggest you read the charter contract and you read the bylaws of the school.</p> <p><u>Jones:</u> Ms. Brown, I just wanted to well not Ms. Brown but those in attendance. I wanted to reiterate that you are permitted to ask questions. So although Ms. Brown is answering on behalf of the board, you may ask questions. They may not answer your questions, of course as Ms. Brown has already reiterated time and time again, but you do have every right to ask those questions for their consideration. Ms. Brown also to your point about the review of bylaws prior to the next meeting, I think that was my intention and that just got tabled was to review those so that we understood selection process prior to voting on new board members which we now have three. We do appreciate that training. I think we could use all of the training that we can get</p>	

including the annual training that is required. But I did want to state to those in attendance, you guys are more than welcome to make any comments and ask any questions that you feel necessary.

Brown: Thank you. I want to be clear that I am not speaking for the board. I am answering procedural questions. I just wanted the audience to understand that the board cannot respond to a question. Thank you. They can ask all they want. But it might lead to frustration and confusion if they fell like they are not getting answers. So, Mr. Garcia who is the president or either of the other officers, after a question has been asked, can say “thank you very much for your question” and then call the next person on the list.

Sarmiento: I have a question for the ladies of the charter. How can we as teachers be more involved in the board because your decisions are going to affect us directly and our students and our community? We need to be aware of everything and what is going on. For me, please, I know nobody is going to answer but I just want you to listen. It’s amazing that right now, you are electing three board members suddenly. We didn’t know anything about that.

Brown: It’s not sudden. They are required to have at least five board members. So this school, is acting very appropriately and very timely, a lot of school don’t. So, your board, instead of waiting 45 days, is taking immediate action to ensure that they have a full board of at least five board members.

Sarmiento: I know; I know everything is no. But I want you to listen to me.

Brown: You can ask. I think whoever is taking the notes for this meeting, should note that the teachers or at least a teacher has expressed interest in being more involved. The school might ask for a committee to be of the teachers. But it’s not good habit to have teachers serve on a board because the board is the boss of the head administrator and the head administrator is the boss of the teachers. And if a teacher is on the board, then they are the boss of the boss.

Jones: I wanted to say, first of all let me, I wanted to introduce Ms. Brown and she is with the CSD within the PED and her colleague Ms. Valenzuela is with us as well also with the PED. So those answers are coming from people the PED. So, I wanted to just clarify that piece. And Mrs. Sarmiento, I just wanted to touch on your point, I know that the board can’t answer, but I am hopeful that the board will listen to the requests of the public that is in attendance. I think those are valid requests. Ms. Brown did make a statement about best practice and the fact that teachers may or may not be a part of that selection process. We do have a detailed process when it comes to selection of board members. There is committee requirement and there are several other things. And that is my purpose for bringing that section of our bylaws up prior to voting. The bylaws also state that we should have at least one parent and not a board comprised of all parents. So when it comes to best practice, I think that’s something that the board needs to consider. But I think your voices are important as well; I think hearing for you guys and understanding where you’re coming from and what you’d like to see happen as primary stakeholders is also important. And with Mr. Garcia as the new president, I really do hope that we can take some of those things into consideration as we move forward.

Graham: Most of us have been blindsided about the fact that I didn’t know there were board members who resigned; I didn’t know this had happened. But I guess I’m asking the new board then to be perhaps more diligent at disseminating information in multiple ways so that people are aware and have an opportunity to be more active participants as major stakeholders of this school.

Burrola: My name is Vondie Burrola. I am a unique part of this community; I am an ancillary support provider for this school. It is probably one of my favorite sites to be during the week. This family of students and teachers, and parents and guardians that come here are absolutely wonderful. So, I had some questions that obviously I understand can’t be completely answered like point blank. But I just felt that coming into this, I’ve been a part of the educational system especially the special education for 22 years. I was unaware that there were so many board members that were not going to be present and so I think that if we were kind of informed of that at the beginning a little bit more cohesively, I think it would’ve gone a little bit differently in the beginning. I think that Mr. Jones had asked for a review of bylaws and qualifications and that was tabled. So, I know that they need to have five members and I’m not disqualifying anyone that’s a candidate; I think there’s a lot of good candidates here for sure. But they didn’t even get a chance to review; that was tabled. And then proceeding and then voting right after kind of seems like railroading. So I’m just basically since now that other people have gone before me, what I’m asking the board to do is to really consider now coming together, reviewing those bylaws and qualifications, reviewing any financial decisions that will impact this community in a grave manner. And kind of do that as a board together, before coming to vote. Because I felt like in the beginning and I’ll just speak bluntly since no one can answer, a vote of two is not a vote. That’s a railroad with like this is just happening and I understand that people leave the community but we’re definitely looking forward to having a board to represent this school in a very diverse manner moving forward; is what I am hoping for. And I just want to say thank you to Mr. Jones because he has really has done such a wonderful job. I’m close to regular education but my heart belongs to special ed and I have seen my special ed students as young adults thrive in the workforce and being a very productive member of the community here in Abq only because of the fight that Mr. Jones has done for this school.

Sarmiento: I just want to say thank you to Mr. Jones. Our school is like an art school because of Mr. Jones. He has vision. My nephews go to St. Pius and this school it works like a private school, with the best. Mr. Jones is the one that has taken our school to the top. He always supports us in anyway, with materials, academics, professionally, always, always. Mr. Jones has always been professional when I go into the principal's office, always professional. He is ok with everybody; he listens to everybody, never get mad. For me, it's amazing because I'm bilingual you know. He has always been so kind; he listens to the public; he supports the teachers. I have been teaching 22 years as a bilingual teacher in many school districts. I came here because Mr. Jones told me to come back and I'm here because of him. And many of the community they know and I support Mr. Jones 100%. I've been teaching 22 years.

Barnwell: His vision has always taken us to the top. We're hoping that the staff members that are here are our full special ed staff is here, and a lot of our regular ed teachers, and we're hoping that the new board members and the old board members that are on board can work with us so that we can continue his vision to get to the top. We cannot have any fighting. We cannot have people saying that he hasn't done a good job because no one asked us; no one had asked us, the teachers. We're in the fight; we're in the trenches. We know what he's done for us. We do get emotional because this school means everything to us. I'm a 30 year veteran; I could retire yesterday and I'm here fighting the fight because of his vision. My goal is that the new board members and Tiffany and Brenda, that we can come together and we can set the board with that vision. Because without your support, we are nothing. But I'm telling you right now, come and visit us; come to the trenches; come and see how far we've worked. It's not a 20, 40, 60, 80 hour week; it is a full-time giving our all because Mr. Jones expects that. This is his vision for all of us to make your students which you have benefited from Tiffany, Brenda has benefited from, and this is for your kids to benefit from all of this. We have worked hard to get to where we are. But we cannot have people saying things behind other people's backs. We need to move forward, professionally because that is what he expects from us. That's why we're all here.

Parent: I think I would like to know that my kid is learning moving forward because we need adults not adults acting like children. No he said this, she said this. At the end of the day, you guys are grown people and kids need to talk to adults, not to children.

Parent: I have two children; one of them needs special education and I'm very thankful for this school from the bottom of my heart. I would do anything for my school; this is my school. My kids have received the best education. I'm very thankful for Mr. Jones. I just feel that we should have a saying in what goes on, even if we don't have the ability to vote. But at least get some sort of notification in what's going on with the board because we are the ones that are here. Our teachers, our parents, we are the ones that are the backbone of the school.

Jaurrieta: Hi, I have two kids here in this school, one that was in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. I just wanted to mention that there was a trip that was planned; the kids were very excited. We started to raise money; we did sale events. Everyone was excited. Stuff happened all of a sudden and then we were notified that there was going to be no trip and what about the money? She said well just leave it for future school use. Then something came up about an insurance or the use of money for insurance. So they decided to move forward and do a graduation; a group got together to do a graduation. They asked for the money, so at least they could do a little something for the graduates and turns out there was no money. When there was raised and at least \$200 per activity. There was no money for the graduates. She asked Brenda and Brenda said that she used the money for meat to make a posole. I just think that it's very important that we all get together, that we're all on the same page where the money goes. The money was supposedly saved. I just don't know what to do. We asked; I came to get answers but the appropriate individuals weren't available. I just think we all need to be on the same page. I would like to know where the money went. When I asked for the money, all I was given was \$248 and that was all that was left. As for a receipt, nobody wanted to touch the money. They directed me to Kyle and he said there was no money. Then it turns out that he did have \$658 so there was a total of \$906, that was the total but it should've been minimum of \$1,000. I understand that there's rules and regulations and procedures and I understand that the legal and administrative are different and apart. But I think it's important for this not to happen. When I asked about the money, nobody wanted to be responsible. I think it is important for the same person to not be so much time on the board. At the end, with that money, we were able to get 39 Starbucks gift cards of \$23 each for the graduates.

Hernandez: I think it's important to count the money. You guys are saying that the teachers and parents, they aren't allowed to be a part of the board. But we if have a parent and a teacher who we know they can go to them and say "this situation happened, we don't know what to do". But I think it's important. My daughter graduated from here and she's going to be a junior. And I have my son, he is in special education with Mrs. Barnwell, Ms. Marti, and her, she was my son's teacher last year. I think that it's important for everyone to be a part of the board.

Barnwell: I just want to say to clarify, Mr. Jones was not on campus during this time. He was not here for this parent to go to, to talk to him, or to ask questions. He was not here at that time. I want to make it very clear that he did not have anything to do with this.

Jaurrieta: Yes, it did happen and it was close to vacation. I just want to emphasize the importance of the communication. I'm very proud of this school. My children have great skills, thanks to this school. I just want to express my point of view for this to not happen in the future. Nothing

personal with Brenda. I just think that things need to be clear. To my point of view, she didn't handle it appropriately.

Barnwell: I think moving forward that the bylaws need to be looked at and the bylaws need to be amended so that board members are not part of follow up with money because I think you cross a gray line. I think that you guys as board members now, you guys need to look at that. Because teachers are not allowed to touch money for that reason. We are not allowed to take money for field trips or anything because of that reason. There's a gray line that you cross and I think she has a valid point. Her questions were not answered. It is still very unclear; we don't know where that money is.

Parent: I have a comment. I think within everything within the government, the district, I think there's something that we can do now that we have new board members. But if you guys think about our kids, the parents, the teachers, I think it's going to work. I think we, the parents are willing to volunteer more so that we know what's going on with my child. Every time that I go to the bus stop to pick up my child, I stay there until the last child is picked up. For even one left, I call the office or their parent. I think we all need to care about each other, you know. I think we can make all this work. I would appreciate it if those questions get answered. I know that you guys need to get your heads together and put things together. We understand that but I don't like the waiting; I just don't like waiting. They want parents to be a part of the board meeting, right? I may not be qualified by degree but I am qualified by heart. I have children from this school; one in high school and thankfully after receiving the benefits from this ESL program, she only needs 1 credit before she needed 4. Now she is fully independent; she is trying her best. I want them to know that we are a community and we're supposed to take care of each other.

Parent: This school is a great school and I consider this school my family. And as family, I think we can do it.

Burrola: I know that Ms. Brown let us know that the board can't directly answer our questions now but as a part of this community, would love for our new board members and the other board members, if we can present to get together and see if some of these pertinent questions can be answered at the august meeting and put on the agenda. Especially the fieldtrip money, not necessarily answers pointing fingers but maybe where is that allocation, what happened to it, and what's the procedure moving forward, so that something like that doesn't happen again. As well as, how as board members we can either present having committees if parents want to be members, kind of developing something like that. So that there is some type of communication between the site and the members here; there should be something in between. I do want to reiterate that Mr. Jones unfortunately was not on campus for this part of the end of this school year. This goes to show you how his leadership and how much knowledge he has offered and we didn't have that at the end.

Chavez: So, I'm just listening and I'm absorbing and hearing what everyone is saying. There is a lot of emotion in this room. I'm a speech therapist and I can't even speak. I deeply feel everyone's emotions in here and you have no idea. I'm an empath; I'm empathic so I feel all of you. The bottom line here is, and I want everyone to hear this, is the children. We want what's best for the kids. The teachers that you have here are amazing teachers. I've been with Mr. Jones since we were La Promesa back on Central. I have worked with this gentleman for years and years and years. I left and came back because he asked me "will you please come back and work here". The only, not the only reason, I love my kids. But I am here because Mr. Jones does a phenomenal job. He is very empathetic. He understands you. I was biting my tongue because I have ADHD; he knows that. He understands me and he lets me be me. I really want us all to work together, parents, teachers, and the school board members. The new board members welcome; you know it's exciting that we have new people in here. I do understand everyone's concern because it's like whoa, wait we didn't know anything about this. So I think there needs to be a lot more community and a lot more communication. There need to be not any type of vindictiveness from anyone. We need to practice kindness because we are the role models for our children and the manner in which we behave our children see that. So what we really need to do is we need to project ourselves as grown adults, empathetic, kind, and just willing to listen to another person, and to have empathy, and do what's best for our kids.

Rubi: My name is Juliette Rubi and I work in the front office and I work right by Mr. Jones. I'm the front desk receptionist. I've worked here for two years already. I love this job completely; every day I wake up because I love my job. It's for the children. Mr. Jones was doing a phenomenal job and I don't know that I would go anywhere else because he is just a wonderful person. I wanted to let you all know that. We have to remember, Mr. Jones is our executive director and he makes the rules in our school; so we have to abide by them.

M.Garcia: I just have a comment. I'll just take a few of your moments of time because I know a lot of you know me and I can be very talkative. My name is Monique Garcia and I've had two children coming. My daughter has been coming since she was in kindergarten and she just got promoted from 8<sup>th</sup> grade now. And Josiah is currently going into 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and he is excellent at his bilingual. I have nothing but wonderful things to say about this school. It's always been about the school. It's always been about the parents, the teachers, the kids, the administrators, everybody. I come onto this school as a kind, loving, empathetic, and very understanding and been onboard with everybody. I've been a volunteer for about 10 years. I never asked for a penny;

	<p>never have asked for anything in return. I've come to the classrooms volunteering; I've been at family events volunteering. I've been here before events and I've been here after events. As a matter of fact, Mr. Kyle Hunt and Mr. Priyam and I, we put together our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual car show. We were really trying to put car shows together because we do want to bring the community together; we do want to bring the community, family, friends, and whoever is around, we welcome them to see what this school has to offer. I've been here for 10 years to know what this school has to offer. Everybody is going to come in with their opinions, of course; everybody is going to come in with their siding, who they're for and who they're not for, and who they're against and whatever and what not. Bottom line, at the end of the day, my children I would like for them to come home and continue saying "this is what I learned from this school", "this is what I learned today", "this is what I got out of my education today". My kids have been with Ms. Graham, Mrs. Barnwell, Mrs. Sarmiento, Ms. Tovar, Mr. Villa, there's so many I keep naming them and I could keep going on. I personally think that I can come onto this campus as professional, and as friendly, and as empathetic, as I possibly can. So last year, as I come on as a parent, I have been very concerned because my children are coming into the car telling me their concerns about what's going on within the school and they were not great things to hear. I don't think this is the time or place to repeat anything but that is time for hopefully another meeting because there are things that do need to be corrected, there are things that do need to be straightened out. No, this school has not been transparent the last year; I've been here the last year and I've asked where Mr. Jones has been. I've had no dealings with Mr. Jones; I've had dealings with Ms. Cecy, Ms. Miranda, other teachers that I don't want to mention because I felt like I should've been dealing with Mr. Jones, but it was Mr. Gonzalez and Mr. Bryant. So for the past year, since I've been here as a parent, seeing all the teachers that have come and go, and have come onboard and who I have befriended, talked to or have disassociated with, I've gotten to know or whatever, volunteered to help whatever. I'm hearing a lot of disturbing things from this past year. As Ms. Marti said here, you know, at the end of the day, what is it about? It's about our kids. I've come into about I think every meeting and expressing that about myself. My time, my money, my donation, my everything. My kids come and you know they've volunteered their time, my husband comes and volunteers his time, my parents come and volunteer their time, you know I could keep going on. My sister Roseanne Ibarra used to work here, you know. Why didn't she get hired on? I don't know that was Mr. the administration and Ms. Ibarra, my sister's, you know. But she was a wonderful teacher; she had nothing to say but wonderful things about this school; she is at another school currently right now. She was the one that was sitting here and the reason why was because she was a concerned community member as well being that she used to be here and what's happening with our school. Because I'm at a point where I'm just wondering where we are with our school other than moving forward for our children at here La Promesa, ABA. Thank you.</p> <p><u>Baca</u>: Is there any more comments? Any more comments, no?</p>	
<p><b>Announcement of Next GC Meeting</b></p>	<p>Next GC meeting: <b><u>Monday, July 24th, 2023; 5:30 pm</u></b></p>	<p>Brenda Baca asked for a motion to adjourn. Brenda Baca motioned. Tiffany Bazan seconded. -Brenda Baca called for a vote. GC approved unanimously by a vote of 3-0; 0 opposed; 0 abstained</p>
<p><b>Adjourn</b></p>	<p>Meeting was adjourned at 7:32pm</p>	