



APPROVED 08/25/2020

**New Mexico Connections Academy (NMCA)
MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING**

Tuesday, July 21, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. MT

**Held via teleconference due to State Precautions regarding Public Health and Safety
During COVID-19 Pandemic:**

1-866-899-4679; Access Code 467-566-653

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Mr. Boitano called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. when all participants were present and able to hear each other. Mr. Boitano conducted a Roll Call.

Governing Council Members Present: Mark Boitano, Letha Oman, Patrick Chavez, Jerry Schalow and Paul Gessing (via video and teleconference);

Guests Present: Sandy Beery, School Leader; Christine Eisenberg, School Staff; Michael Vigil and Ashley Woodard, The Vigil Group; Gary Corkran, Jenny Dukek, Bryce Adams, and Emily Lee, Online & Blended Learning (OBL) staff (via video and teleconference).

II. Routine Business

a. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Boitano asked the Governing Council to review the Agenda distributed prior to the meeting. There being no changes, a motion was made by Mr. Gessing and seconded by Mr. Schalow as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Agenda for the July 21, 2020 New Mexico Connections Academy Governing Council Meeting, as presented, is hereby approved.

A roll call vote was conducted; the motion passed unanimously.

III. Public Comment

There were no public comments at this time.

[Mr. Vigil joined the meeting at 9:11 a.m.]

IV. Oral Reports

a. School Leader's Report

i. Planning for Next School Year

Ms. Beery presented this item to the Governing Council. She advised the Governing Council of the School Leader report located in the Council materials. The Council and Ms. Beery discussed

virtual education best practices and Ms. Beery updated the Governing Council on a weekly meeting for charter school leaders she attends to collaborate and discuss best practices.

Ms. Beery further reviewed with the Governing Council the school's enrollment and interest for the 2020-2021 school year. The Governing Council held extensive discussion on the anticipated state guidance on the opening of schools across the state. Ms. Beery updated the Governing Council on the school's re-entry plan as included in the Governing Council materials and the Governing Council discussed the plan in detail with Ms. Beery.

b. Partner School Leadership Team (PSLT) Update

Ms. Dukek presented to the Governing Council on behalf of Online & Blended Learning's (OBL), School Leadership Team. Ms. Dukek advised the Governing Council that OBL is aware of mandates of school start date changes occurring in other states and that there is a collaborative team within OBL working through all requirements.

Ms. Dukek further discussed enrollment interest for the upcoming school year and advised of enrollment numbers including students in various stages of the enrollment pipeline. The Governing Council inquired as to the use of the OBL platform by other school districts in the state.

V. School Facility Discussion

a. Approval of All Action(s) Necessary to Move Forward with School Facility Option(s)

Mr. Boitano presented this item to the Governing Council. Mr. Boitano updated the Governing Council on the completion of required inspections and an appraisal as part of the due diligence period. Ms. Beery advised the Council of the status of the ADA inspections as part of the due diligence period. Mr. Schalow advised the Council on the status of remaining due diligence items. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Schalow and seconded by Mr. Gessing as follows:

RESOLVED, that the School Facility Purchase in the amount of \$1,425,000.00, as presented and discussed, is hereby approved,

There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Schalow and seconded by Ms. Oman as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Governing Council President as Governing Council Designee to Negotiate, Finalize and Execute all Associated Documentation to Complete the Sale on Behalf of the Governing Council, pending Governing Council Counsel review, is hereby approved.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Schalow and seconded by Ms. Oman as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Authorization of the Vigil Group to Wire Funds for the School Facility Purchase in the amount of \$1,425,000.00 with written and verbal authorization from the Governing Council President or Governing Council Treasurer, is hereby approved.

A roll call vote was conducted; the motions passed unanimously.

VI. Consent Items

Mr. Boitano asked the Governing Council members whether there were any items from the Consent Items that they wished to have moved to Action Items for discussion, or tabled. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Gessing and seconded by Mr. Chavez as follows:

RESOLVED, the Consent Item:

- a. Approval of Minutes from the June 16, 2020 Annual Meeting; is hereby approved.

A roll call vote was conducted; the motion passed unanimously.

VII. Action Items

There were no action items.

VIII. Information Items

- a. Financial Update

Mr. Vigil reviewed the school's financial statements with the Governing Council. Mr. Vigil updated the Governing Council on guidance received from the state for anticipated funding in the 2020-2021 school year. Mr. Vigil further advised that he anticipates receiving finalized guidance in August.

- b. Legislative Update

Mr. Adams updated the Governing Council on recent legislative activities which may impact the school.

- c. Governing Council Schedule for the 2020-2021 School Year Update

Ms. Lee presented this item to the Governing Council. Ms. Lee advised of the revised Governing Council Schedule, as included in the Governing Council materials.

- d. Governing Council Recruitment Update

Mr. Boitano provided the Governing Council with an update on ongoing Governing Council recruitment efforts.

[Ms. Eisenberg joined the meeting at 10:26 a.m.]

The Governing Council discussed training requirements for new Governing Council members in detail.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION - Pursuant to NMSA 1978 Section 10-15-1(H)(2) to discuss the hiring, promotion, demotion, dismissal, assignment or resignation of or the investigation or consideration of complaints or charges against any individual public employee

Upon a motion made by Mr. Gessing and seconded by Mr. Chavez and confirmed via roll call vote, the Governing Council entered into Executive Session at 10:33 a.m. pursuant to NMSA 1978 Section 10-15-1(H)(2) to discuss the hiring, promotion, demotion, dismissal, assignment or resignation of or the investigation or consideration of complaints or charges against any individual public employee. Governing Council members present during the Executive Session were: Mark Boitano, Jerry Schalow, Patrick Chavez, Letha Oman and Paul Gessing. Guests invited by the Governing Council to attend were: Emily Lee and Jenny Dukek, all having attendance rights. All others left the meeting at this time.

At 10:55 a.m. the Governing Council resumed open session. No action was taken during Executive Session.

X. Approval of Action(s) Necessary Based on Executive Session

Mr. Boitano reviewed the conversation as held during Executive Session. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Gessing and seconded by Mr. Chavez as follows:

RESOLVED, that the School Leader Evaluation and Rating, as discussed, is hereby approved.

A roll call vote was conducted; the motion passed unanimously.

XI. Adjournment and Confirmation of Next Meeting - Tuesday, August 25, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. MT

Mr. Boitano noted that the Governing Council was at the end of its agenda and that the next meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, August 25, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. MT. At 10:58 a.m., a motion was made by Ms. Oman and seconded by Mr. Gessing as follows:

RESOLVED, that the adjournment of the New Mexico Connections Academy, Inc. July 21, 2020 Governing Council Meeting, as discussed, is hereby approved.

A roll call vote was conducted; the motion passed unanimously.