

# Roots & Wings Community School

35 La Lama Rd, Questa, NM 87556



## Regular Governing Council Meeting Approved Minutes\*\*: May 16, 2023

(Meeting scheduled for the 3rd Tuesday of every month @ 5:30pm)

\*\*The RWCS GC may take agenda items out of order to better facilitate the business at hand \*\*

In-Person at school or online using Google Meeting [Link](#)

By Phone (US) +1 904-580-9474 PIN: 475 226 824#

### I. Opening Business

A. Call Meeting to Order: 6 PM

B. Roll Call: Aline Robertson - here, Erica Lannon - absent, Scotney Blackburn - here, Robin Mayo - absent, Elizabeth Anderson - here

**Others in Attendance:** [Jon Orris](#) & [Sarah Pina](#)

**Members of the Public:** Eileen Campos-Fiske, John Kennedy, Andrea Griffin, Christina Olsen, Margaret (Peg) Bartlett, Todd Winward, Scott Laidlaw

C. Reading of Mission Statement:

*Our mission is to inspire our students to academic & personal excellence. Our innovative learning community creates classroom, farm & wilderness adventure– Engaging the head, hands & heart – Enabling students to achieve more than they think possible & to take an active role in our ever-changing world!*

D. Approve, Amend, or Denial of Current Meeting Agenda: 5/16/2023 Scotney Blackburn makes a motion to approve the minutes with the exception of removing III.A. Big Brothers Big Sisters. Elizabeth Anderson seconds. Aline Robertson-yes, Scotney Blackburn-yes, Elizabeth Anderson-yes. Motion carries.

E. Approve, Amend, or Denial of Prior Meeting Minutes: 4/25/2023

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1\\_UB9ZR6mb1UUuNWtZ-oKNv0h2KIuSbpaSXEcOyo0Sx8/edit?usp=share\\_link](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_UB9ZR6mb1UUuNWtZ-oKNv0h2KIuSbpaSXEcOyo0Sx8/edit?usp=share_link) Aline Robertson makes a motion to approve the special meeting minutes with the changes presented.. Elizabeth Anderson seconds. Aline Robertson-yes, Scotney Blackburn-yes, Elizabeth Anderson-yes. Motion carries.

### II. Public Comment: (3 minutes/public comment) If more time is needed, we suggest a letter/email be sent to the GC, or request to be on a future agenda. The GC shall not respond to public comments presented, but will take comments under advisement.

Peg Bartlett: Special Ed Teacher - brought about her concerns about reprimands issued this year, felt forced to resign

Scott Laidlaw: CEO and co-founder of Midschool Math and previous teacher at RWCS. Here in support of Peg Bartlett

Todd Winward: School Owner/Landlord. Worried about the school “losing its magic”. Addressing the Board about the “magic”.

Christina Olsen: 15 yrs Clinical Oversight for trauma in the area. Here in support of Peg Bartlett.

Eileen Campos-Fiske: Parent of student. Addressing issues that have occurred at this school surrounding Pegg.

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## III. Informational/Discussion Items

- A. ~~Big Brothers & Big Sisters presented by Jeff Rogers~~
- B. Directors Report
- C. Finance Committee Report (Aline) : Budget review today with Jon Orris, Scotney Blackburn and Sarah Pina.
- D. Budget update (Sarah) : Program Dollars increased \$85,502.00 which is a 8.96% increase from FY 22-23. Total SEG 1,039,795. For FY 23-24. Losing the Family Index funding. We may lose TCF funding too. The school will have to use around \$75k out of operations to submit a balanced budget. Looking for some answers for budgets so Sarah can submit the budget to PED on Friday.
- E. [FY 23-24 School Calendar update \(Jon\)](#) : Can't adjust school hours because of the Blue Bus Schedule. Added a week onto the calendar. There are 2 school days off per month (previous calendars had more days off). Normal Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Years, and Spring Break Holidays. Harvest Fest will be a paid Staff Day (Oct 21). Back to School Night August 10th. Jon Orris 1st day back is Aug 8th.

## IV. Action Items:

- A. Budget Adjustment Requests: BAR 570-000-2223-0024-I increase for fund 24101 Title 1 increase \$38,011 for Supplies and Materials and Other Charges. Jon will get math manipulatives and stock up on other learning materials for classrooms. Funding does expire so we have to use it quickly. BAR 570-000-2223-0025-I increase for Fund 24189 \$844 for contract services for music and SEL. Scotney Blackburn makes a motion to approve the bars as presented. Elizabeth Anderson seconds. Aline Robertson-yes, Scotney Blackburn-yes, Elizabeth Anderson-yes. Motion carries.
- B. Payroll and Accounts Payable Vouchers : Aline Roberston makes a motion to table IV.B. until the next meeting. Scotney Blackburn seconds. Aline Robertson-yes, Scotney Blackburn-yes, Elizabeth Anderson-yes. Motion carries.
- C. Legal Counsel contract for FY 23-24 : Patty announced retirement then decided to not retire. She will be off June and July but be back in full swing. Susan will take over for her over the summer. Aline Robertson makes a motion from Jon Orris to rehire Matthews Fox PC if there are no major changes to the contract. [Elizabeth Anderson](#) seconds. Aline Robertson-yes, Scotney Blackburn-yes, Elizabeth Anderson-yes. Motion carries.
- D. [School Calendar FY 23-24 revised](#) : Scotney Blackburn will table to approval of the revision of the FY 23-24 school calendar to the Special Meeting on Friday the 19th. Elizabeth Anderson seconds. Aline Robertson-yes, Scotney Blackburn-yes, Elizabeth Anderson-yes. Motion carries.

## V. Closed Session - *Closed Session Pursuant to Section 10-15-1(H)(8) NMSA 1978, the Board will meet in closed session to discuss the purchase of real property.*

- A. Vote to go into Closed Session:
- B. Following Closed Session the Council will return to Open Session and may take action. Only the item listed above was discussed

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## VI. Closed Session - *Closed Session Pursuant to NM Statute Section 10-15-1 H(2) limited personnel matters*

A. Vote to go into Closed Session:

B. Following Closed Session the Council will return to Open Session and may take action.

Aline Robertson-yes, Scotney Blackburn-yes, Elizabeth Anderson-yes. Motion carries. The Board went into closed session at 7:34 pm to discuss *NM Statute Section 10-15-1 H(2) limited personnel matters and the purchase of real property*. The Board came out of closed session at 9:42 PM and no action was taken during closed session. We did discuss the contract renewal for the Director. The Board has made a decision on the salary for the Director. Aline Robertson makes a motion to increase the directors salary by 7%. [Elizabeth Anderson](#)seconds. Aline Robertson-yes, Scotney Blackburn-yes, Elizabeth Anderson-yes. Motion carries.

## VII. Closing Business

A. Special Meeting May 19, 2023 at 2:30 PM

B. Next Regular Meeting: Jun 20, 2023 at 5:30pm

C. Adjourn meeting: 9:48 PM