



Raices del Saber Xinachtli Community School Governance Board Meeting Minutes-DRAFT

Date April 28, 2022

Approved: (date of meeting here when approved)

Raices del Saber Xinachtli Community School, 2211 N. Valley Drive

The Meeting was conducted via the Zoom Meeting Platform

Time: PM - 6:30 pm

Roll Call and Call to Order:

The following Board Members confirmed attendance and stated their full name via Roll Call:

Governance Board Members						
	Name	Office	Present	Absent	Arrived Late	Departed Early
1	Holaya Ponce Acosta	Chair	X			
2	Daniel Ferraro	Vice-Chair		X		
3	Sabrina Zamora	Interim Secretary	X			
4	Ray Reich	Director at Large	X			
5	Patricia Lopez	Director at Large	X			
6	Maria Luisa Gonzalez	Director at Large	X			

Upon determining the presence of a quorum Board Chair, Holaya Ponce Acosta called the meeting to order at 6:32pm

Others in Attendance: Terrance Hester, Business Manager SWREC; Nancy Brooks, Architect, ARC Planning Firm, **Staff:** Julia Rivera-Tapia, Head Administrator, Lucia Carmona, Director of Operations and Community Engagement, Jessica Castro-Buelna, 3rd grade Teacher, Elva Varelo, Office Manager, Anita Lara, OST Coordinator; Filio Regale, SPED teacher, Kayla Martinez, Teacher **Parents:** Yvette Lopez, Maria Realzola, Aldair Marquez, Veronica Lucio, Roberto Moctezuma, Erika Romero, Celina Corral Arreola, India Hornand, Issis Inzunza, Mayra Rodriguez, Karen Chavez Chavez, Karla Martinez, Lesley Campa Ortiz, Sara Herring, Irma Lopez **Community Member:** Luis Ramos

Late Arrivals: - Karla Walton, parent (6:48pm), Regina Miller, staff (7:51pm), Arthur Walton, parent (7:57pm)

1. *Conflict of Interest Declaration* – None Declared

2. *Consent Agenda* – includes approval of the following:

- a. Agenda for April 28, 2022, Governance Board Meeting
- b. Minutes of the March 17, 2022, Governance Board Meeting
- c. The Monthly Finance Report to include:
 - I. March Account Summary of Expenses,
 - II. March Account Summary of Revenue,
 - III. March Bank Statement
 - IV. March Bank Reconciliation Statement,
 - V. March Update in Preparation for the Quarterly Cash Report
 - VI. March Voucher by Warrant Report
 - VII. March Finance Committee Meeting Notes from Finance Committee Chair

Motion: Ms. Patsy Lopez moved to approve all items listed in the consent agenda. Second by Mr. Ray Reich. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote from all present (Acosta, Gonzalez, Lopez, Reich, Zamora).

3. *Finance Committee and Audit Committee Report* by Terrance Hester, SWREC, and GB Treasurer,
 - a. Discussion of any GB member questions on the Finance Report.
 - b. Discussion and possible action on Budget Adjustment Requests (BARs).

Mr. Terrance Hester presented the Bank Reconciliation dated 4/21/22, and the following BARs for the board to review and discuss.

Fund 11000, BAR#: 577-000-2122-0021-I: \$5,704.00: Justification: New award for 1% SEG increase in ERB Contribution Funding.

Fund 11000, BAR#: 577-000-2122-0025-I: \$6,588.00: Justification: House Bill 2- 3% Salary Increase.

Fund 24106, BAR#: 577-000-2122-0026-I: \$12,888.00: Justification: New Award Increase from PED.

Fund 24189, BAR#: 577-000-2122-0027-I: \$10,000: Justification: Final Award for FY 21-22 from PED.

Fund 24308, BAR#: 577-000-2122-0028-I: \$103,588.00: Justification: Award for final FY 21-22 sub-awards for CRRSA from PED.

Motion: Ms. Patsy Lopez moved to approve all budget adjustment requests presented. Second by Mr. Ray Reich. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote from all present (Acosta, Gonzalez, Lopez, Reich, Zamora).

4. *Public Input* –

Motion: Ms. Patsy Lopez moved to amend the agenda to move agenda item 10, bullet point 4 in new business to be heard in correlation with public input. Second by Mr. Ray Reich. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote from all present (Acosta, Gonzalez, Lopez, Reich, Zamora).

Ms. Nancy Brooks from Architectural Research Consultants began to present a draft.

Point of Order: Patsy Lopez declared the motion was to move agenda item 10, bullet point 4 in new business, not all of new business.

Ms. Julia Tapia-Rivera shared that Mrs. Ribail would be retiring tomorrow, and Mr. Carlos Aceves put in his letter of resignation. Both were accepted by Head Administrator.

Ms. Lesly Campa (in Spanish) wanted to know why he is leaving?

Mr. Roberto Moctezuma- wanted to know next steps for Xinachtli curriculum- what is the plan to move forward?

Ms. Patsy Lopez explained that questions won't be answered. Only board members can ask questions, however feedback and concerns should be expressed, in order for board members to use as forms of inquiry. (Spanish interpretation was given by Ms. Holoya Acosta-Ponce.)

Ms. Veronica Lucio declined to respond at this time, would like to speak after all parents had an opportunity to speak.

Ms. Karla Martinez questioned (in Spanish), why put this item on the meeting agenda if we cannot determine issues.

Ms. Patsy Lopez further clarified that feedback, concerns, and questions should be presented during Public Input in order for board members to be made aware of issues and question as we move forward. Ms. Acosta-Ponce translated in Spanish.

Ms. Karla Martinez continued to express that she is worried about the interruption of teachings in terms of class flow. Last year, it was a change with principal, and its happening again, during the process of the school year. Ms. Acosta- Ponce translated in English

Ms. Issis Inzunza expressed understands that it was a choice of Mr. Carlos Aceves to submit a letter of resignation, and hopefully he wants to come back, and hopefully the door is open. Staff/teachers have hard time without him and its only going get harder if he's not with us. She hopes there is room for discussion of him coming back. How is Xinachtli going to be implemented? Carlos, staff, and principal never has been integrated. Making curriculum to give students don't see this happening with out him guiding. Carlos's capacity until he names a successor to integrate the curriculum. We will not be true to the mission and be lost. Ms. Acosta-Ponce translated in Spanish.

Ms. Lesley Campa (Spanish) Ask questions we need answers, this is important, we want the school to keep going. Ms. Acosta-Ponce translated in English.

Ms. Veronica Lucio addressed to take notice of more attendance from the community. Advised to attend the meeting because of contact from parents. There was a request sent to the board to meet and discuss parent concerns. To date, there has not been a response from Governing Board. Teachers have expressed it will be hard to move Xinachtli curriculum without the heart and essential staff. Ms. Lucio translated her comments in Spanish.

Ms. Anita Lara shared she was born and raised in Mountain Tortugas pueblo, mother, and staff member. Afterschool program has been home for 3 years. We had a vision rooted what we all bring to the dream of it. Strongly- space is experiential vision and mission ways to express. Both structured and ancestral knowledge. Contemporary and ancestry. As staff members, many cases have not been able

to unite. How are we going to embody the curriculum? That it happens daily. The light- small and large however when main focus of Xinachtli in the work we are doing. Next steps need to be gentle. Carlos Aceves has resources connected to what we are trying to build. As an elder, we can't go forth without his knowledge. Ms. Acosta-Ponce translated in Spanish.

Mr. Filio Rigales admires Carlos Aceves when asked what is important to staff and parents, come together. We need him to continue. We should all be able to speak to everyone should have a say so. Why do we have lawyers in a small school. Letters from staff- Indio. At the request was sent to Consilio- 3 others need to be sent. Ms. Acosta-Ponce translated in Spanish.

Ms. Regina Miller, the Teacher Assistant to Mr. Carlos Aceves, expressed is an agreement with all. Carlos is a pillar of Xinachtli curriculum. She stated she has been in schools all the time in Mexico, and has learned more from Carlos, than the 36 years she has been in the classroom. Ms. Acosta-Ponce translated in English.

Ms. Karen Chavez stated her child has been at Raices since Kinder. She moved from a public to charter because of Carlos. He reached out. "He is the school." Her son was falling being, he would follow up, and you can see no matter what he was involved in their education. As a parent we are a community without Mr. Carlos the school is not the school He is the community. Ms. Acosta-Ponce translated in Spanish.

Ms. Patsy Lopez provided clarification that as a board member, feedback clarification needs to be classified. Legally, Mr. Aceves has privacy this the reason we cannot share information. It's the teacher's privacy and his right.

5. Review of Authorizer Unique Correspondence - "None at this time"

6. Principal's Report – By Head Administrator, Julia Rivera-Tapia (presented in English and in Spanish)

- a. **See Addendum A** for more information.

7. Concilio de Padres and Community Engagement Reports – By Concilio Co-Chair, Veronica Lucio, and Director of Operations and Community Engagement, Veronica Lucio (to include Community School Updates) –

- a. **See Addendum B** for more information

The meeting was cancelled this month. The Governing Board and school administration will be meeting this coming month.

2 persons have expressed interest to serve on the board: Mr. Marquez and Mr. Monteczuma. Both shared information about themselves. The next meeting will take place on May 19th at 6:00pm

Dr. Zamora provided clarification that we could possibly have one represent the Consilio and the other as a community general board member, to consider as we elect new board members.

Motion: Ms. Patsy Lopez moved to table items #8 and #9, and move to item #10. Second by Dr. Maria Luisa Gonzalez. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote from all present (Acosta, Gonzalez, Lopez, Reich,

Zamora).

8. Reports from Committees -

- a. Academic Performance Committee – Dr. Gonzalez and Principal, Julia Rivera-Tapia
- b. *Governance Board Development Committee* – By Committee Chair
- c. *Facilities Committee* - By Committee Chair, Ray Reich
- d. *Safe School Committee* – This committee is still under development.
- e. *School Development Committee* - This committee is still under development.

Tabled to next board meeting.

9. Unfinished Business - (items tabled from last meeting for lack of time, or an item that could not be effectively addressed without further study at the last meeting).

- a. Safe School Committee – Chair Needed
- b. School Development Committee - Chair Needed

Tabled to next board meeting.

10. New Business –

- Nancy Brooks from Architectural Research Consultants will present to the board.

Ms. Nancy Brooks presented the master plan draft. Plan- look through it. Capital Improvement Projects (CIPs). Estimated total for CIPs- \$3.9 million. Board needs to review documents and approve the documents. If there are any questions contact and feel free to ask. Does the contingency budget include constitution prices? No they do not.

- Calendar for the 2022-2023 will be presented.

Ms. Julia Rivera-Tapia stated we would be following the LCPS balanced calendar. Charters schools will follow so siblings were aligned. There are a couple of exceptions. School ends on May 31st, and school will begin on July 11th.

Motion: Dr. Maria Luisa Gonzalez moved to approve the calendar for the 2022-2023 school year. Second by Mr. Ray Reich. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote from all present (Acosta, Gonzalez, Lopez, Reich, Zamora).

- A lawyer has been contracted to work for Raices (read attachment)

Ms. Patsy Lopez requested to see the contract and review the type of services that will be provided. As she was not clear.

Motion: Ms. Patsy Lopez moved to table this item and move to the next meeting for the next agenda as discussion question. Second by Mr. Ray Reich. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote from all present (Acosta, Gonzalez, Lopez, Reich, Zamora).

- Staff change announcements; Mrs. Ribail Retirement announcement and Carlos Aceves' resignation.

Already discussed in correlation with Item #4 Public Input.

11. Agenda items for Next Meeting –

1. Move training discussions to the next meeting.

2. Continuing to discuss projects updates: Murals
3. Board Development: Ray Reich- Xinachtli - 15 minute Curriculum presentation.
4. What happen to the School Uniforms? Tabled because of mask mandate.
We are still working on it. Still working on it: present to Consilio to get input?
5. Academic Performance- sharing scores, etc.
6. A lawyer has been contracted to work for Raices (read attachment) what type of services will be provided?
7. Request a report for plans for Xinachtli curriculum?
8. What are the recruitment plans for both vacancies?

12. *Date of the Next Governance Board Meeting - Thursday, May 26, 2022 at 6:30pm*

Adjournment – Vote to adjourn by roll call voice vote at 9:07 PM

Motion: Mr. Ray Reich moved to adjourn. Second by Dr. Maria Luisa Gonzalez. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Addendum A

Addendum B



Lucia Carmona's Report 4.28.2022

Concilio de Padres Monthly Meeting

Date/Fecha: April 21, 2022

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: Via Zoom Meeting,

MEETING WAS CANCELED. – The reason to cancel the meeting was to give time to the Governance Board and school administration to prepare responses to multiple parents that were asking questions and concerns about kindergarten teacher, Mr. Aceves' resignation.

- **Announcement: Over the following weeks Lucia Carmona will help to distribute through all parents these two options to vote and have a finalist by next GB monthly meeting to present the new parent who will represent the Concilio de Padres at the Raices Governance Board.**

There are two self-proposed parents' candidates to fill Dr. Daniel Ferraro's position as Parent representing the Concilio de Padres at the Governance Board.

- **Mr. Raul Aldair Marquez.**

I'm the father of Elena Marquez who's in kindergarten currently. I was incredibly fortunate that I was able to attend a bilingual elementary school myself growing up in California. It made such a positive impact to be able to practice both languages at school and at home. I'm interested in the board position because I feel that my communication skills and willingness to cooperate in a team setting will be valuable as a member of the board to help bridge the gap between parents and the committee. I'm capable of being unbiased and having respectful discussions when there are differences of opinion. My primary purpose, as I feel it, is to help people. I have chosen to do so professionally by helping people learn more about how to adopt healthy eating and exercise habits. I'm a first generation college graduate and graduate degree holder among my two younger brothers. That is why I would like the opportunity to help the school establish deeper roots and be recognized as a leading education institution in Las Cruces.

ESPAÑOL:

Soy el papá de Elena Marquez quien está en kinder en este momento. Yo fui muy afortunado de poder asistir a una escuela primaria bilingüe mientras crecía en California. Hizo un impacto tan positivo poder practicar ambos idiomas en la escuela y en casa. Estoy interesado en ser representante porque siento que mis habilidades de comunicación y mi voluntad de cooperar en un equipo serán valiosas para ayudar a cerrar la brecha entre los padres y el comité. Soy capaz de ser imparcial y tener discusiones respetuosas cuando hay diferencias de opinión. Mi propósito principal en la vida, tal como lo siento, es ayudar a las personas. He optado por hacerlo de manera profesional ayudando a las personas a aprender cómo adoptar hábitos saludables de alimentación y ejercicio. Soy el primero de mi familia en ser graduado universitario y poseedor de un título de posgrado entre mis dos hermanos menores. Por eso me gustaría tener la oportunidad de ayudar a la escuela a establecer raíces más profundas y ser reconocida como una institución educativa líder en Las Cruces.

- **Mrs. Veronica Lucio**

I am originally from Guadalajara, Jalisco Mexico, I have lived in the United States for over thirty years, I have four children's and four dogs. I graduated from NMSU in 2012 with a degree in Criminal Justice. In the past two years I have served as chair of the Concilio de Padres of the school and this experience has made me believe that when families, schools, and communities work together effectively and as partners, with parent involvement is a powerful strategy that enhances the student's academic performance and helps better prepare our children to lead healthy, happy and productive lives. Because of that, I would like

to continue to serve at my child school by being part of the Raíces Governance Board. I believe I would be an asset to the board because I have the enthusiasm, charisma, I'm Bilingual, but most important that I desire to create an environment of trust, identify needs of children and parents and school and all of us work together for a better tomorrow. Also, my academic and work experience provides me with a better understanding of how to deal with government rules and regulations that as my understanding Public Education is not the exception. Currently, I work for the City of Las Cruces and such position gives me the opportunity to expose to great connections to establishing beneficial partners to our school.

ESPAÑOL

Mi nombre es Verónica Lucio, soy originaria de Guadalajara, Jalisco México, vivo en los Estados Unidos desde hace más de treinta años, tengo cuatro hijos y cuatro perros. Me gradué de NMSU en 2012 con una licenciatura en Justicia Penal. En los últimos dos años que he servido como presidente del concilio de padres y esta experiencia me hizo creer que cuando las familias, las escuelas y las comunidades trabajan juntas de manera efectiva y conjunta, con la participación de los padres es una estrategia poderosa que mejora el rendimiento académico del estudiante. desempeño y ayuda a preparar mejor a nuestros niños para llevar vidas saludables, felices y productivas. Por eso, me gustaría continuar sirviendo en la escuela de mi hijo siendo parte del Comité Ejecutivo. Creo que sería una buena candidata para el comité porque tengo el entusiasmo, el carisma, soy bilingüe, pero lo más importante es el deseo de crear un ambiente de confianza, identificar las necesidades de los niños, los padres y la escuela, y trabajar juntos por un mañana mejor. Además, mi experiencia académica y laboral me brinda una mejor comprensión de cómo lidiar con las reglas y regulaciones gubernamentales que, según tengo entendido, la Educación Pública no es la excepción. Actualmente, trabajo para la Ciudad de Las Cruces y tal puesto me da la oportunidad de exponerme a excelentes conexiones para establecer socios beneficiosos para nuestra escuela.

Gracias.

-Next Meeting: May 19, 2022.

Lucia's Updates. –

1. April events we just had:

- April 2, 2022 – Garden Beautification in collaboration with FoodCorps NM, La Semilla Food Center, and parents
- April 23, 2022 – Spring Xinachtli 2022 Summit, in collaboration with partners: La Piñon, Children's Reading Alliance, Las Cruces Church of Christ, Gigi's Communication, and FoodCorps member

2. Upcoming Events:

- **On April 30th and May 1st from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm**, parents, students, and community at large will be invited to help paint the final mural design on the wall at Raíces del Saber Xinachtli Community School.
- **May 20, visit from Anahuacalmecac Charter Mexica School at Los Angeles California** a delegation to interact with our parents and staff.
- **May 27, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am Kindergarten Graduation**, you will hear more details soon.

3. School for parents:

- Spanish language classes **in person at school** March-April every Wednesday for 10 sessions, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm - 12 participants
- English classes **online** April-May, every Tuesday for 10 sessions, from 7:30 to 8:30 pm
- 1st Teacher **Online**, Provided by CRA, April-May English class every Monday at 6:00 pm
- 1st Teacher **Online**, Provided by CRA, April-May Spanish class every Friday at 6:00 pm
- Computer Literacy, Provided by NGAGE NM and Community Action Agency (CAA), **In Person at CAA**, May - 4 sessions, every Tuesday from 5:30 to 7:30 pm

4. Equity Council re-established and will continue in receiving training. **(As an observation, starting next Board Meeting, Equity Council will be included on the agenda and will have their own report as mandated by PED)**

Our Equity Council will join forces with the council from La Academia Dolores Huerta. April 27, at 5:30 pm at La Academia all participants from both schools will receive a training about the purpose and role of the Equity Council.

- PARTICIPANTS:

Parents: Karla Martinez, Yadira Soriano, Georgina Badoni, Diana Godinez, India Hernández.

Principal: Julia Rivera-Tapia

School Staff related to Community Engagement: Elva Varela and Lucia Carmona

SPED Teacher: Filo Rigales

- NOTES: This session will be dedicated fully to addressing any questions about the role of the council, create a list of areas we can include, and developing an agenda to meet regularly.
 - ELD students
 - African American
 - Native American
 - SPED Students/Physically Different Able
 - Low Income
 - LGBTQ+
 - Food Justice/Nutrition/
 - Mixed race
 - Asian
 - Social Emotional/Mental Health needs

5. Community School Implementation updates.

- We are preparing for next year to implement our third and last year of the grant. PED just notified that will send more information to start a Community School Certification for our school, that way if we meet all criteria will keep receiving funding every year from SGE funds based on enrollment. This way the Community School coordinator will be a permanent position to the school, same as the OST Coordinator.
- Evaluators Dr. Elaine Hampton and Dr. Susan Brown are finalizing and will deliver their evaluation on the Community School Implementation Grant for current year. Once is ready will send to every with the results

6. Operations:

- Enrollment for next SY 2022-2023.
- Using CSI funds, we will be able to pay a radio announcement, print posters, banners, and other events.
- Current Enrollment and New Enrollment for next SY 2022-2023

Date	Kinder		1 st	2 nd		3 rd	4 th
For next SY UpToDate 4/26/2022	K-1 23	K2	3	2			2
Current students	26		Hoobler 17	Insuza 17	19	18	NONE