



Raices del Saber Xinachtli Community School Governance Board Special Virtual Meeting Minutes

May 14, 2024, **APPROVED**

Approved: (May 23, 2024)

Location: Raices del Saber Xinachtli Community School, 2211 N. Valley Drive
The meeting was in-person, with the public joining through the Zoom meeting platform.

Time: 6:03 PM to 8:55 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 | Raul Aldair Marquez | Chair | X | | | |
| 2 | Patricia Minjarez | Vice-Chair | X | | | |
| 3 | Veronica Lucio | Secretary | X | | | |
| 4 | María Elena Garza de Vargas | Treasurer | X | | | |
| 5 | Patricia López | Director at Large | X | | | |

This is the monthly regular governance board meeting. Ms. Veronica Lucio, the Secretary, is acting as minutes taker, calling the meeting to order and declaring a quorum at 6:03 p.m.

Roll Call and Call to Order

1. *Conflict of Interest Declaration – Not declaration of conflict of interest.*
2. *Public Input - (See rules for public input at the end of agenda)*
 - a) *Roberto Moctezuma, concerns about changes that are still unclear, even though the month of May is almost over and, with this, the school year. When we are going to know, there is some lack of transparency; parents would like to know, as well, what teachers will be in and what grades because that will determine whether they stay or not at the school. As we know, the mission of the school is to provide an academic biliterate program for students, master two calendar systems, and develop communication through a community talking circle. students*

will have the opportunity to interact with nature and cooking and things like that, and that is why we have our children specifically in this school and what it stands for; I just wanted to know how we let parents know about what's going on with proposed changes in the way to implement next year because that will be an implication if the student will be enrolled next year by utilizing the enrichment Xinachtli pedagogy embedded in the curriculum. Also, I have concerns about accounting issues. Do we have some kind of audit at school to address several accounting-related issues? Thank you, Mr. Marquez.

- b) Filomena Rigales: I just wanted to let everyone know that learning more about the new plan and how it will affect instruction is very important. There are still many things to discuss, and we need our leaders' help. I just want to know if there is some help in having some meetings to see what is going on. And what people are saying is that I think we need Mr. Carlos and Mr. Moctezuma there because they are the leaders at Xinachtli who teach us, and our teachers need more professional development.*
- c) Terrance Hester: Asking the board for a closed session for himself and Dr. Artiaga to attend this meeting. He tried to ask for a closed session in advance, but I never got back to him. I was requested to be conducted before any new business and insisted on attending this closed session.*

Mr. Aldair Marquez, board chair, asked for a motion to go into a close session.

Motion: *Patsy Minjarez moved at this time to go into a close session*

Second: *Elena Garza*

Vote: *Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote from all governing board members present
The closed session started at 0:12:27 minutes after starting the session.*

A Parent, India Hernandez, asked if there was a specific time to wait to continue the meeting. Mr. Hester responded that there was no way to give an estimated time because it would depend on the Board discussion time that may take place.

The Governance Board, Dr. Artiaga, head administrator, and Mr. Terrance Heaster, the Business Officer, returned from the closed session to retake the Public Special Meeting at 2:06:09 hrs.

Mr. Marquez highlighted that several participants were still waiting to move out with the meeting, regardless of the time.

3. New Business –

Mr. Marquez called for a motion to Rescind the initial approval of the budget for the 2024-2025 SY.

Motion: *Patsy Lopez moved to rescind the initial 2024-2025 SY budget, which was approved at the last meeting.*

Second: *Aldair Marquez*

Vote: *Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote from all governing board members present*

- Discussion and possible action on the updated budget for the 2024-2025 SY to maintain all current staff.

Mr. Terrance Hester, Business Manager, presented an updated budget Revised from PED on May 6, 2024.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Program Cost | \$1,940,547.00 |
| Less 2% PED Admin Withholding Fee | \$ 38,810.95 |
| SEG* | \$ 1,901,736.65 |
| Anticipated Carryover | \$ 1,860,052.37 |

The revised estimated budget is estimated at \$1,901,736.65. Resulting in an increase of \$314,074.96 As per the Governance Board, the new budget includes the budget for ALL teaching staff returning retention. With budgeting for ALL staff return, the school will have excess teachers, and we currently have minimal funding in place for ancillary and additional services.

Q&A: Patsy Lopez asked if the letters terminating a contract with some staff members will be rescinded and budgeted to guarantee that the position of Xinachtli Mentor will be covered.

R by Mr. Terrance: The letters sent to staff members will be rescinded immediately. Regarding funds for the Xinachtli Mentor Position, some possible funds are still not confirmed. We will continue exploring other potential venues.

Q. by Mr. Moctezuma: What are the implications for the Xinachtli curriculum if the certified teacher who provides that part to the teachers is not in place because of a lack of funding? As part of the school's mission and as an Indigenous school, how will we prioritize securing that position?

R by Ms. Patsy Lopez: As long as we discuss the personnel matter, that gap should be covered.

Q. by Patsy Lopez: Is the bilingual stipend for certified teachers included in this budget?

R. Mr. Hester: No, it is not included in this budget because there is not enough revenue to cover that part. It depends on how PED allocates those funds to our school.

Q. Patsy Lopez: If our school does not fulfill its mission, are we jeopardizing SEG funding?

R. Mr. Hester: YES,

Patsy Lopez proposes a **Motion** to the board to ask the administrative staff to actively work to identify the funds needed to secure the Xinachtli Mentor position. I am looking forward to a second.

Pat Minjarez **Seconded** the Motion.

Mr. Aldair, Chair, called for a vote. The motion was passed unanimously by a roll call vote from all governing board members present.

Patsy Lopez asked for the next meeting item to include a presentation about what Xinachtli's implementation looks like at the school and ensure that its mission is aligned with its implementation.

Motion: Veronica Lucio moved to ask to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 pm

Second: Pat Minjarez

Vote: The motion was passed unanimously by roll call vote from all governing board members present.

4. Date of the Next Governance Monthly Board Meeting – May 23, 2024, at 6:00 PM by Virtual Zoom Meeting.

Adjournment – Vote to adjourn by roll call vote at 8:55 pm

Veronica Lucio
Veronica Lucio, Secretary

May 23, 2024
Date Approved