**VGHS Governing Council Meeting Minutes**
**September 15, 2026**

**Call to Order**: Meeting called to order at **5:05pm**. The meeting took place in person, via Zoom platform: ***https://zoom.us/j/7975088493*** and by telephone: ***+1-669-900-6833 Meeting ID 7975088493#***

**Roll Call**: Members present ***in person***—Julie Turner, Harold Cordova, Shona Mares-Bond, Mark Goldman, Opal McCarthy, and Colleen Shaughnessy (via Zoom). ***Absent***: None.

**Approval of Agenda 09/15/26**: ***Motion*** to approve the agenda after removing item vii by M. Goldman. 2nd by H. Cordova. Vote to approve: Julie Turner, Shona Mares-Bond, Harold Cordova, Mark Goldman, Opal McCarthy, and Colleen Shaughnessy. Against: None. Motion approved.

**Approval of Minutes from 08/18/26**: ***Motion*** to approve minutes by S. Mares-Bond. 2nd by H. Cordova. Vote to approve: Julie Turner, Shona Mares-Bond, Harold Cordova, Mark Goldman, Opal McCarthy, and Colleen Shaughnessy. Against: None. Motion approved.

**Public Comment:** No public comment.

**Staff Report:** Jennie Begley is our CTE Culinary I & II and PE Teacher at VGHS. She reported what each of our teachers are working on this month.

**Student Report:** Timothy Pacheco, Student Government President, and Anjelia Martinez, Student Government Vice President, provided an update on Student Council activities. They discussed plans for a vending machine, upcoming fundraisers, and Homecoming. Both students expressed confidence in the Student Council team and shared that they feel the group is off to a strong start this year.

**Report from Finance Director**: The financials and bank statements were provided to all Governing Board Members. The fiscal year is off to a good start. Our PSFA Lease Assistance Application was submitted on August 13th. A copy of the Application is attached. We are currently working on the financial audit for FY26. The audit must be submitted to the state auditor the Wednesday prior to Thanksgiving and once released by the state auditor we will discuss in an open meeting. Thank you all for signing the related party questionnaire that I sent out through adobe signature for the audit. I am still waiting on a signature.

a. **BARS for Approval**:
The following BARS are presented for approval:
**BAR 585-000-2627-0001-I** is an OBMS Generated BAR for FUND 31400 for an appropriation in the amount of $110,000.
**BAR 585-000-2627-0002-I** is an OBMS Generated BAR for FUND 27107 GO BOND LIBRARY for an appropriation in the amount of $1,053.00
**BAR 585-000-2627-0003-M** is a Maintenance BAR for FUND 27502 Career Technical Education Program to move the expenditures into alignment with the final approved application.
**BAR 585-000-2627-0004-M** is a Maintenance BAR for FUND 24172 Carl D. Perkins - Reserve to move the expenditures into alignment with the final approved application.
***Motion*** to approve the BARs as presented by S. Mares-Bond. 2nd by O. McCarthy. Vote to approve: Julie Turner, Shona Mares-Bond, Harold Cordova, Mark Goldman, Opal McCarthy, and Colleen Shaughnessy. Against: None. Motion approved.
b. **Finance Report Acceptance:** ***Motion*** to accept the unaudited financial reports as presented by the Finance Director by S. Mares-Bond. 2nd by M. Goldman. Vote to approve: Julie Turner, Shona Mares-Bond, Harold Cordova, Mark Goldman, Opal McCarthy, and Colleen Shaughnessy. Against: None. Motion approved.
c. **Finance Committee Meeting:** Finance Committee met prior to the meeting and discussed several of the expenditures within the budget.

**Report from Governing Board President**, Julie Turner updated the board on the following:

a. **Officer Terms** -GB President is a 3 year term and the rest of the officers are 1 year terms. There is a limit of 2 terms for officers.
b. **SY 26-27 Board Elections** – Elections in December 2026
c. **Board Training for SY 26-27** – Proposed date in January 2027
d. **Board Committee Structure and Assignments for the Year**
e. **Recruitment Committee** – Board Members to get a committee together.

**Strategic Planning Subcommittee Report:** Director Smith reported that the school is in the process of forming a Strategic Planning Subcommittee. The committee is expected to include two staff members, one to two students, Jim, and President Turner as the Governing Board representative. The committee will work with Sam Gonzales to continue gathering feedback through October regarding what is working well at the school and identify opportunities to strengthen the school in order to better support students and the Taos community..

**Director Report:** Director Smith reported to the board on the following subjects:

a. **Charter Goals Progress Update**
   **4 PBL; CLR; Digital Portfolio; Crew**
b. **Academic Achievement focus:**
   i. **BOY Testing Complete**
   ii. **PSAT on October 15th & SLCs on October 16th**
   iii. **Interventions for ELA and Math**
c. **Update on Recruitment**
   i. **Current Student Enrollment #'s**
   ii. **Advertising efforts: PSA's, Radio ads, outreach to business & community organizations, Movie theatre ad, Taos News "Anuncios"**
   iii. **Forward movement (Radio ad, outreach to business and community organizations)**
d. **Other updates from School:**
   i. **Traffic Pattern Committee and follow up**
   ii. **Update on Charter Renewal and CSD Visit**
   iii. **Cornhole Tournament on Sept 24th**
   iv. **Rocky Mountain Youth Corps presentation**
   v. **Recharter Application Update**

**Next Meeting Agenda Items:** Recruitment Committee update.

**Next Regular Meeting:** October 20, 2026 at 5:00 pm. Finance Committee will meet at 4:30pm.

**Adjournment**: Motion to adjourn by S. Mares-Bond. 2nd by H. Cordova. Vote to approve: Julie Turner, Shona Mares-Bond, Harold Cordova, Mark Goldman, Opal McCarthy, and Colleen Shaughnessy. Against: None. Motion approved.

Meeting adjourned at 6:09 pm.

**Approve:** Julie Turner **Date:** Oct. 20, 2026