



Vegas Vista Academy Board Meeting Minutes
5355 Madre Mesa Dr. Las Vegas, NV 89108
6:30 PM; May 14, 2025

Posting of Agenda: This agenda has been posted at the following locations: Vegas Vista Academy website at <https://vegasvistaacademy.org/>; Nevada Public Notice <https://notice.nv.gov/>

Format / Procedures / Rules: This is a notice of a public meeting held pursuant to NRS Chapter 241. Members of the public are invited to be present.

Certain items may be removed from open/public consideration if permitted or required by Nevada law. The Board may also (i) take agenda items out of order; (ii) combine two or more items for consideration; (iii) separate one item into multiple items; (iv) table an agenda item to a future meeting; and/or (v) remove an agenda item.

Comments from the public are welcome at this time. You may present your comment during the meeting or beforehand, by contacting Gretel Valdes at info@vegasvistaacademy.org and relaying the comment to her. No person may sign up for another person, nor yield his/her time to another person. The Board may not deliberate on, or take any action regarding, a matter raised during the public comments sessions, unless the matter itself has already been specifically included on the agenda as an “Action” Item (and then, only at the time such Item is heard). The Board Chair will limit public comment to [3 to 5] minutes per person to ensure that all participants may speak and the Agenda is not unduly delayed, subject to any brief extension granted by the Board Chair in his sole discretion. No restrictions apply based on the speaker’s viewpoints. If the Board hears public comments which exceed, in total, [20] minutes, the Board may postpone the remainder of the public comments to the same agenda item at the end of the meeting. The Board Chair may, in his discretion, forgo Public Comment at the start and end of the meeting and instead solicit such Comment during each individual action item below, as permitted by NRS 241.020(3)(d)(3). The information above applies to all Public Comment periods.



Reasonable efforts will be made to assist and accommodate persons with physical disabilities desiring to attend the meeting. Please contact Gretel Valdes at info@vegasvistaacademy.org at least 48 hours before the time of the meeting, if possible, so that reasonable arrangements may conveniently be made.

Please also contact Ms. Valdes if you would like a copy of the agenda and any public reference materials relating to agenda items. Those materials will also be available at the meeting location. Those materials would provide you with greater context and clarity as to the matters under discussion.

By law, no one may willfully disrupt the meeting to the extent that its orderly conduct becomes impractical.

All items are action or possible action items if denoted as such.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Eric Duran Valle at 6:37 PM Wednesday May 14, 2025..

2. Attendance

- **Present:** Eric Duran Valle, Victor Tavares, Matt Turner, Dr. Silvina Jover, Machel Rasmussen, Renee Cadaoas, Karl Catarata
- **Absent:**, Layla Medina, Anthony Ruiz, Elena Fabunan, Nadine Bentis
- **Others Present:** Dr. Benjamin Feinstein, Ruby Howell, Nicholas Mowad, Chelle DeEtte, Karla Ruiz, Mark Gardberg, MaryAnn Khoshaba, Tiffany Chimaroke, Tina Ortiz

3. Public Comment (if any)

Bryan Minoth - Would like to thank everyone for all the support shown to support his role.

Karl Katarata - Would like to congratulate the board and team with the recent Gala for the money raised and looking forward to raising more dollars for the org.

Ruby Howell - A 2nd grade teacher at VVA, first year teaching. Would like to thank the staff and board for the support and is really excited for next year.



Tina Ortiz - A 2nd grade mom. Would like to thank everyone for the support and feedback from other parents. Students are thriving and are excited for the next year.

Karla Ruiz - A 2nd grade teacher at VVA, After 20 years of teaching, this is the best year of teaching. Her son and herself came from CCSD and loved the first year.

4. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the 04/02/2025 meeting minutes made by Karla Katrata.

Seconded by Victor Tavares.

Motion passed unanimously. 8-0

5. Ongoing Items

A. Executive Director's Report

1. IB attribute this month is being reflective.
2. The staff has been reflecting on the first year with strengths and areas of improvement.
3. We are 15 days away from moving to a new property.
4. Current enrollment is 159 full enrollment and 12 partial enrolments.
5. With current enrollment, a 3rd grade class has been cut from 3 to 2 classes.
6. Enrollment goal is 290.
7. The ratio from previous year to current year is low.
8. There is a lot of interest in dual language program.
9. This week will be the final inquiry of return.
10. Total enrollment for the 25-26 school year is at 269 with the goal of 290.
11. Gala was a success with close to 150 i attendance
12. We had close to 30 items for silent auction
13. We had 4 sponsors, with 3 interested in sponsoring next year.
14. Raised about \$19,000 dollars.
15. With expenses taken out, net total was around \$11,000
16. Gala funds can fund a new playground.
17. Open house is Friday June 6th.
18. Thursday August 7th, will be ribbon cutting at the new campus.
19. We have engaged a mover for May 31, 2025.
20. At the new property, we have hosted 9 events. Including an Immigration Seminar, Gala and open houses.
21. We do have a few outstanding board tasks on Epicenter.
22. Of our current staff we have 14 staff returning and 2 staff not returning. 6 part times will be returning.



23. SBAC testing was completed last week.
24. Students will complete MAP testing this week.
25. Our first Field Day was successful and sponsored by the Y.
26. Kindergarten graduation will be May 27.
27. Last donuts with doc will be May 27.
28. Our soccer season and cheer squad season wrapped up this month.
29. Extracurriculars are lined up for next month.
30. Summer institute is coming June 2-6 for all VVA staff.
31. Last day with students is the 29th and the last day for the teacher is the 30th.
32. Report was submitted.
33. SJ - Question about Summer Institute for staff, would like to know what it looks like.
Doc- Would need to know to get board members in to see what training looks like.
34. Chair Duran extended time for questions. No further questions.

B. Finance Report

1. Nicholas Mowad will be presenting with Nandini.
2. Nandini introduced herself to the board and will be taking over the finances with Ed Tech.
3. Scout is out on PTO.
4. Reminding the board it takes a few weeks from month on end for accurate numbers.
5. March Revenue earned in March is around \$135,233.00
6. Gave a rundown and explanation on the March revenue including PCFP, CSP and local revenue.
7. Expenses of March is about \$179,051
8. Expenses include Salaries & Benefits, Property expenses, and services.
9. June 30th is the last day of the fiscal year.
10. Nicholas presented a forecast for the year.
11. The forecast for the year will be in the black.
12. Cash Flow projection is currently \$227K and projected to end the year at \$175,000
13. CSP Grant Tracker is \$1.2 million. \$400K is remaining.
14. Chair Duran has opened the floor for board members for questions or clarification on the budget report for 24-25.

C. Board Professional Development Training:

1. May: Solve the Recruiting Puzzle, Finding, Recruiting New Board Members by Renee Cadaoas
 - A. Succession Planning is for governance to run the boards.
 - B. A succession map is to start planning for the end of term limits now instead of waiting.
 - C. Current members should have a replacement at the end of term. Not as a replacement but a successor to guide when it is their time.



- D. Tools should be in the right place. Including job description, defining goals, and get a constant reminder of what our mission is.
- E. Potential board members should visit the school and attend meetings.
- F. We should be looking at local non profit leaders and chambers of commerce to recruit for board.
- G. Non Voting committee members should also be encouraged to attend meetings and events.

6. New Business/For Discussion and Possible Action

- A. Tentative 2025-26 School Year Budget Public Hearing (**For Discussion and Possible Action**) Pursuant to NAC 387.720, the public budget hearing is to be held in the second or third week in May.
 - 1. Nicholas Mowad is presenting the budget development process.
 - 2. The final budget is due June 8th.
 - 3. State is currently in the State Legislative Session.
 - 4. Rate is not final on PCFP.
 - 5. We will stick to \$9,414/ADE, which is VVAs largest source of funds.
 - 6. Transportation funds grant expires this year. There is currently a proposal to extend the grant.
 - 7. Raises for teachers/staff excludes Charter Schools.
 - 8. The budget reflects a total enrollment of 290 total. Dispersed 14 total classes for K-5.
 - 9. Majority of revenue is PCFP - assumes rate stays flat. CSP Grant sunsets, but \$250K is forecasted in FY26
 - 10. Expenses in the budget includes salaries & benefits, comprising around two-thirds of total expense. Property cost (rent) is \$220k.
 - 11. Forecasting a total of \$3.77 million in total revenue. Some of the revenue is tied to certain expenditures, including State SPED, and PCFP.
 - 12. The current staffing model is based on 290 students.
 - 13. Enrollment is crucial for staffing budgets.
 - 14. Other expense assumptions include Rent, utilities, supplies, and other services.
 - 15. Food program needs to be more sustainable.
 - 16. Bond covenants include, having days of cash on hand, enrollment, and debt service (lease) coverage.
 - 17. Chair Duran-Valle opened the floor for questions from the board.
 - 18. Mabelle Rasmussen, commended Nicholas for staying on top of the budget and making it easily consumable.
 - 19. Chair Duran-Valle raised concerns on Title 1 money possibly not being funded. Would like to know a plan in the event we need to move money around for non negotiables..



20. Nicholas advised the budget is very tight and there is not a lot of moving around. The board would have to raise private funds and there are some possible cuts needed to be done.
21. Nicholas presents a budget template that is submitted. Next template has not been finished by the state but will be ready to submit June 8.
22. Motion to approve final 2025/26 budget as presented by Nicholas Mowad made by Matt Turner.
Seconded by Renee Cadaos.
Motion passed unanimously. 7-0

7. Old Business

No old business was discussed.

8. Public Comment (if any)

Chair Druan-Calle - Would like to make it clear to VVA staff that all contracted payments will be fulfilled and all payments will be made.

Michelle English - Mom of 2 children in VVA. She has no regrets of withdrawing children and bringing them to VVA. She loves everything about the school and children are happy. She knows other parents that are not happy with their current school. She thanks the staff for patience with her son. A suggestion for next year is to have extra curricular. Would like to possibly add extra activities.

Maryann Koshaba - 1st grade teacher at VVA and PE coordinator. Would like clarification on the PE coordination for next year.

11. Closing

Motion to adjourn made by Karl Katarata.

Seconded by Matt Turner.

Motion passed unanimously. 7-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 PM on Wednesday 5/14/2025.