

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING



EXPLORE ACADEMY - LAS CRUCES GOVERNING COUNCIL

Please note that a quorum of the board may attend training, school activities, or community events. If this occurs, no board work will be discussed nor will any actions be taken at these gatherings. All board discussion regarding decisions and voting occur at publicly noticed meetings.

Explore Academy - Las Cruces Governing Council has scheduled a meeting to be held on Wednesday, July 22, 2026, beginning at 6:00 pm.

This meeting will be held in accordance with the New Mexico Open Meeting Law and the Governing Council's (GC) annual Open Meetings Act (OMA) Resolution. Members of the public may view the meeting online via the virtual meeting room link listed in the agenda.

If a member of the public would like to view a document referred to in any meeting of the Explore Academy - Las Cruces Governing Council and is not able to easily find or access said document, please email Alexis Black at alexis.black@ealascruces.com and it will be made available within five (5) business days.

Public comment time will be allotted during each board meeting: (1) at the beginning of the meeting regarding items on the agenda before any items are discussed on which action may be taken so comments may be heard by the governing body and (2) at the end of the meeting prior to adjournment for items not on the agenda. No action may be taken regarding any topic during this public comment section, but rather must wait until the topic at hand is included as an action item on an agenda. A time limit of three (3) minutes will be imposed on public comments to allow all members of the public the opportunity to speak. These comments will not be restricted based on viewpoint.

- The GC reserves the right to limit or curtail repetitive comments or other expressions that are obscene, profane, disruptive of the orderly conduct of the GC's meeting, harassing or defamatory or not in keeping with the decorum of a school board meeting which includes students or other minors.
- Complaints regarding personnel matters or involving students may be redirected to appropriate administrative procedures for review and handling.
- Public comment can be submitted prior to a meeting via email (angel.rivera.board@ealascruces.com) to be included in the minutes and provided to the Board.

The Board is happy to make reasonable accommodations for any member of the public who has a disability and wishes to attend the meeting. If special arrangements are necessary, please notify the Chair Board via email (angel.rivera.board@ealascruces.com).

Draft meeting minutes will be available within 10 working days of the meeting. Minutes will become official after approval at the next board meeting where a quorum is present. Minutes are available on the school's website ([Governing Council — Explore Academy Las Cruces](#)) in the Agenda and Minutes Archive.

AGENDA



EXPLORE ACADEMY - LAS CRUCES GOVERNING COUNCIL

Mission The mission of Explore Academy - Las Cruces is to provide all students, regardless of background, with a personalized, educational experience through the power of student choice, allowing each student to create a personalized and engaging educational pathway in preparation for college.

Chartering Authority: Public Education Commission (PEC)

Support Staff to the PEC: Charter Schools Division (CSD) of the PED

Department of Education: Public Education Department (PED)

Governing Board Members: Chair: Angel Rivera, Vice-Chair: Dr. Christine Reyes, Secretary: Violeta Paxton, Member Rey Gomez, Member Terrence Moore, and Member Gabriela Graham

Meeting Date: July 22, 2026

Meeting Time: 6:00 pm

Meeting Location: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89862652848>

Meeting ID: 898 6265 2848

Meetings are live streamed. Recordings are posted on the Governing Council's [Youtube page](#).

1. Procedural Agenda

- a. Call to Order
- b. Roll Call and Ascertain Quorum
- c. [Pledge of Allegiance](#)

2. Approval of July 22, 2026 Agenda

For action

Following a request for any declarations of conflicts of interest, the Chair will request a motion to approve the agenda

3. Approval of Minutes from [06/24/2026](#)

For action

4. Finance Committee Report

No financial reports for July

5. Head Administrator Report

No Head Administrator update for July

6. Governing Council Business

For Discussion and Action

- o Action: [SY2026-27 Herrera transportation Contract](#)
- o Action: Approval of employee handbook
- o Action: Approval of student handbook
- o Action: [Extension of Facility Lease SY2026-27](#)
- o Action: Approval of Lease Assistance Application SY2026-27

7. Board Comments

An opportunity for comments, announcements or updates, including future agenda items, from Board members. No action will be taken.

8. **Public Comment**

No more than two minutes per comment

9. **Adjournment**

The next regular meeting of the GC is scheduled for Wednesday, July 8 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom®.

References/Reminders for Board Members:

- **Save the Date: Charter School Conference**
TBD
- [LCS Governance folder](#)
- [2021-2026 Contract, annual report, and annual notices](#)
- [Governing Council ByLaws](#)
- Board Policy Manual Please continue to review policies and propose any for review by the board.
- [Governing Council Annual Calendar](#) of meeting topics
- **Agenda Items or Work Session Topics** - Please advise the Governing Board Chair and/or Board Liaison of any topics of interest for discussion or training at future meetings
- **Annual Evaluations**
 - **Head Administrator**
The evaluation tool for SY26 will be a combination of [Excel NM](#) and Strategic Plan/Key Objectives identified by The board. [Training on Excel NM is available on Canvas platform.](#)
 - **Board Self-Assessment**
- **Governing Board Mandatory Training must be completed annually by June 30th.**
The [NMPED/CSD Training Tracker](#) are available internally and for board members only.
 1. **Synchronous virtual sessions** (1-2 hours) offered by [NMPED/CSD training](#)
 - a. See the link for the Governing Board training schedule for the list of upcoming training sessions.
 - b. To register, please send your name, the name of the school you serve, and the sessions you wish to attend to charter.schools@ped.nm.gov
 - c. NOTE: Credit for training from NMPED will not be granted if the board member arrives more than 15 minutes late to a session.
 2. **Asynchronous modules** via [Canvas](#) platform
 - a. Email charter.schools@ped.nm.gov and melissa.brown@ped.nm.gov if you do not have a Canvas account login or to add the training for the current school year
 3. **Charter School and other Conference sessions**, if approved in advance