



**ACE Leadership High School**  
**Regular Meeting of the Governing Board**  
*Wednesday, February 25th, 2026*  
**Agenda**

Notice is hereby given that the ACE Governing Board Regular Meeting will begin at 7:30am  
*The meeting will take place at ACE Leadership HS, 1240 Bellamah Ave. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87104*  
*Or virtually on Zoom: Join Zoom Meeting*  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87060652969?pwd=uyVNdlA1PmXb08SEEyca1uzvX41Mb6.1>

Meeting ID: 870 6065 2969  
Passcode: 4MWCqM

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**AGENDA**

- I.** Call to Order for Regular Meeting: 7:36
  
- II.** Roll Call for Quorum:  
Members Present: Emma Curd, Ronda Gilliland-Lopez, Gabby Romero, Dan Erickson, Lon Freeman  
Members Not Present: Marissa Hernandez, Jeff Steele, JR Tarin, Jeff Debellis  
Other Attendees: Matt Salas, Ralph Gonzales, Casey Mason, Agnie Lerner, Dan Hill
  
- III.** Approval of Agenda
  - a. Motion: Ronda Gilliland-Lopez
  - b. Second: Emma Curd
  - c. Vote: Unanimously Approved
  
- IV.** Approval of the Governing Board January 28th Meeting Minutes (Action)
  - a. Motion: Ronda Gilliland-Lopez
  - b. Second: Emma Curd
  - c. Vote: Unanimously Approved
  
- V.** Public Comment: (Three minutes maximum per speaker)-None
  
- VI.** Finance Report and Approvals (Action): The Finance Committee reported that financial statements, voucher documentation, and internal controls were reviewed in detail. Internal control processes were found to be in place, followed, and operating effectively. Budget Adjustment Requests (BARS) were presented for review. These adjustments reflect routine budget alignment. Journal entries included routine adjustments, including voiding and reissuing a check and reclassification of salaries and benefits between account codes. These entries were administrative in nature and did not impact overall financial totals. Purchase card usage was reviewed and found to be well-managed and compliant. All transactions included appropriate documentation, business purpose, approvals, and receipts. Controls are operating effectively. The review confirmed that payroll taxes and related liabilities are current and paid appropriately, with no outstanding concerns. Bank reconciliations were completed, reviewed, and verified by the Finance Committee. No discrepancies were identified.

- a. Vote to approve January, 2026 Voucher Disbursements, Bank Reconciliation and Financial Reports
  - i. Motion: Ronda Gilliland-Lopez
  - ii. Second: Emma Curd
  - iii. Vote: Unanimously Approved
  
- b. Vote to approve BAR 31-I
  - i. Motion: Lon Freeman
  - ii. Second: Gabby Romero
  - iii. Vote: Unanimously Approved
  
- c. P-card Approval for January, 2026
  - i. Motion: Dan Erickson
  - ii. Second: Emma Curd
  - iii. Vote: Unanimously Approved

## **VII. Board Reports**

- a. Chair and Executive Committee Board member transitions are being coordinated to ensure continuity in leadership and committee structure. Board training is scheduled, with several members registered to complete required hours. The recent CSI (school improvement) visit was positive, with recognition of restructuring efforts to support student graduation. The school projects approximately 78% on-time graduation for the day program, with continued focus on improvement across all programs.
  
- b. Audit Committee The annual audit was completed with no material findings, only a minor issue related to timing of a journal entry. The issue will be corrected in a future financial adjustment. Overall, the audit reflects significant improvement in financial management practices. Continued focus will be placed on strengthening budget monitoring controls.

## **VIII. Director's Report**

- a. Facilities-Ralph  
Facilities updates highlighted ongoing campus improvements and expansion efforts. Additional portable classrooms and restrooms have improved student access and reduced congestion in the main building. Infrastructure work is underway to support expansion, with another portable expected to be operational soon. Cost-saving measures, including completing fencing in-house, are expected to significantly reduce expenses. The demolition of a neighboring property is progressing at a lower-than-expected cost, with plans to repurpose materials for student projects. Additional improvements include added heating for better temperature control, sound-dampening structures to enhance learning environments, and the development of a fabrication lab to expand hands-on learning opportunities. Future plans include an outdoor kitchen and continued campus beautification.
  
- b. Curriculum and Testing-Casey  
The school successfully completed English language proficiency testing for 76 students, demonstrating strong organization and staff coordination. Staff received positive feedback on the efficiency and professionalism of the testing process. Family meetings are scheduled with a revised format to better meet scheduling needs. The school was also recognized for achieving the largest increase in instructional time statewide, with a site

visit scheduled to observe instructional practices. Planning for next year's staffing and program needs is also underway.

- c. Recruitment and Summer Programming-Matt  
Recruitment efforts are underway for the upcoming school year, including outreach to over 3,000 prospective students and preparation for an upcoming open house. Summer programming is continuing to be developed, with a focus on work-based learning opportunities and credit recovery.
- d. Upcoming Events and Student Support  
The school is preparing for upcoming SAT testing and spring activities. Additional supports are being planned for seniors as they approach graduation to ensure they remain on track and successfully complete requirements.

**IX.** Items for Board Discussion and Action

- a. Board Training Hours Board training is scheduled for March 21 from approximately 9:30 a.m. to early afternoon. Several members are registered, and attendance will fulfill required training hours. Those unable to attend will need to complete training through alternative options.

- X.** Student/Staff Presentation-Students and staff presented on the SkillsUSA welding program, highlighting its growth into one of the school's most engaging programs. Students are developing technical welding skills alongside workplace skills such as time management, precision, and working under pressure. The team is preparing for upcoming SkillsUSA competitions, with a focus on welding this year and plans to expand in the future. The program is supported by grant funding for equipment and gear, and there is a goal for students to earn industry certifications. The presentation emphasized both the strong student commitment and the program's connection to real-world career pathways.

**XI.** Items for future agenda

- a. Student Presentation
- b. Board Training Hours

**XII.** Next Regular Meeting, Wednesday, *March 25th*, 7:30am

**XIII.** Adjournment:

- a. Motion: Gabby Romero
- b. Second: Lon Freeman
- c. Vote: Unanimously Approved