APPROVED

rootedschool

Rooted School - Washington

Minutes

RSV Board Meeting

Date and Time
Tuesday October 27, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Location
Rooted School Vancouver
10401 NE Fourth Plain Blvd, Suite 201
Vancouver, WA 98662

Directors Present
A. Davis (remote), A. Duncan (remote), A. Lovett-Uddin (remote), A. Mason, D. Nerenberg, L. White (remote)

Directors Absent
J. Lockhart

Directors who arrived after the meeting opened
D. Nerenberg

Guests Present
J. Singleton, J. Weatherspoon

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

A. Mason called a meeting of the board of directors of Rooted School - Washington to order on Tuesday Oct 27, 2026 at 6:03 PM.

B. Record Attendance

D. Nerenberg arrived.

II. Approval of Minutes

A. Approve Minutes from September 29, 2026 Special Board Meeting

A. Davis made a motion to approve the minutes from RSV Board Meeting (Rescheduled) on 09-29-26.
A. Duncan seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

III. Communications

A. Welcome Community Members

B. Initial Public Comment

No public comment

IV. REPORTS, REQUESTS, AND COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

A. Reports, Requests, and Comments by Board Members

B. Student Board Rep Report

Michelle Rauda

C. Empowering the Board

D. Board Priorities Review

E. WA Charters Legislative Update

V. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Financial Disbursements and Payroll as Audited and Certified per RCW Regulations

A. Davis made a motion to approve the consent agenda.
L. White seconded the motion.

The following payments as audited and certified by the auditing officer, as required by RCW 42.24.080,

and those expense reimbursements claims certified, as required by RCW 42.24.090, are approved for
payment. In addition, payroll payments in the amount of $86,126.41 are also approved.
General Fund
Accounts Payable
Total electronic payments totaling $137,908.35 and
Check numbers N/A totaling $0
Non-AP Cash Disbursements
Total electronic payments totaling $3,015.68 and
Manual checks #N/A totaling $0.00
Payroll
Total electronic payments totaling $86,126.41 and
Payroll check numbers N/A totaling $0
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

VI. BOARD INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. 2027 Board Meeting Calendar Draft

The board reviewed the draft calendar for the first time. It will vote on the final calendar in November or December for submission to the Commission.

- The charter renewal application will be submitted February 25 (official deadline March 2). The board will discuss and vote on it at the January 26 meeting.
- A board retreat is tentatively set for Friday, February 12, 3:00–7:00 PM, with dinner, to review renewal and expansion. A. Duncan may be unable to attend due to a new baby.
- The August 24 meeting will move to mid-August to avoid the first week of school. A July placeholder will be kept, and holiday-season meetings will be scheduled earlier.

B. Board & Admin Staff Required Training

Annual board trainings are due November 10 and take about 90 minutes to 2 hours.

VII. Executive Director and School Reports

A. ED Report & School Improvement

Dr. J reported that the school is on budget but in its tightest cash year to date, with 73 days cash on hand against a required 60.

Enrollment
97 enrolled vs. 97 budgeted; 0 withdrawals (2 students may withdraw for non-attendance)
Enrollment goal
110 students for a more solid position

Days cash on hand
73 (threshold 60; historically above 100)

Full-year projection
$2.5M revenue / $2.7M expenses (net negative); entered the year with over $800K in the bank
Private revenue
Below target; fundraising discussion next month

- Some categories run above 8% due to front-loaded technology purchases. Staffing changes merged a teaching role into the Director of CTE position.
- A sync problem between IEP Online and the student information system showed zero special education students; staff corrected the records manually.
- Running Start students are being recounted, since FTE currently shows 88 rather than 97.
- There is no academic performance framework update yet; assessment and semester data are pending.
- The compliance dashboard does not require board approval; the board continues to approve disbursements.

Vision: "postcard from the future" (February 24). The renewal application is submitted on time, requesting growth to 420 students with a healthcare pathway and a middle school, backed by 150 families of current 7th graders. Every senior has a funded post-secondary plan, the ESMA is settled, every trustee is engaged in Giving Tuesday, and the first graduation is June 11.

Work between now and Thanksgiving. Bring the ESMA to the board, solidify the internship model, gather renewal evidence, connect every trustee to Giving Tuesday (details November 10), and begin family and community outreach, including youth roundtables with partners such as Latino Leadership Northwest and Shifted Theory. Drafting runs Thanksgiving through February

Graduation venue and ceremony planning are underway.

- L. White asked about recruiting 7th-grade families, what a "funded plan" means (FAFSA/WASFA, scholarships, paid internships or jobs), and why turnout at the recent financial aid night was low. Dr. J said Jessica meets with seniors in advisory and worksite learning.
- A. Lovett-Uddin and D. Nerenberg appreciated the clarity of the vision. A. Lovett-Uddin asked how board members can connect their skills to it; Dr. J emphasized co-designing the vision with the community.

- The target is a board vote on the ESMA on November 10; it must be approved before the renewal application is submitted.

VIII. BOARD ACTION ITEMS

A. Policy Discussion: Second reading

L. White made a motion to approve items 7.1, 7.2 and 7.3 as presented.
A. Davis seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

B. Policy Discussion: First Reading

A. Lovett-Uddin made a motion to approve policy 1250.
A. Duncan seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.
Gives students who have not met credit requirements (e.g., due to IEPs or disabilities) a performance-based route; charters are ineligible for graduation waivers

IX. Board Workshop

A. Charter Renewal & Strategic Planning

A summary of the board's recent 2x2 conversations was shared in chat. Themes: a second pathway gives students more choice; Rooted is small enough to care; it serves a high share of students with IEPs; growth is framed as choice, not competition, and as community self-determination. A middle school could feed the high school and better prepare students.

Recruitment concerns. Enrollment grew from 20 to about 100 students, but the target is 140, and members questioned whether 250 by 2028 is realistic. A. Duncan and A. Davis noted families commit more readily when students are younger, before peer ties form. Sports were raised as a draw to traditional high schools; club and neighborhood-school sports remain options. D. Nerenberg highlighted the leadership development possible in a 6–12 program, and members cited King's Way as evidence of demand.

B. Expansion Discussion

- Expansion costs at least $5M to ramp up, including an operating gap of about $250K–$350K per year and $1.7M due on the current loan and lease.
- Dr. J is pursuing a CSP grant and a seed investment grant (up to about $3M). Applications align with the August charter decision, and a letter of support has been promised. If the grants don't come through, the school stays small.
- A $10M facility would consume about 20% of revenue versus a 10–11% target. It is affordable at 500 students but not at 350.

- Guidelines suggest 75–100 sq ft per student, or 31,000–42,000 sq ft for 420 students, larger than the building under consideration.
- Colas Construction's build-out estimate is expected next week. A lease-to-own option is under review, but financing construction under that structure is unclear; James (Blueprint) will advise.
- A. Duncan raised concern that splitting middle and high school across two buildings could hurt retention.

X. Closing Items

A. Reminder and Important Dates

- All required board members: complete annual trainings by November 10.
- Board members: read the Performance-Based Pathway and Cell Phone (3245) policies before November 10; send questions to Dr. J.
- Members interested in serving as board chair or secretary: notify A. Mason.
- L. White: lead selection of additional student board representatives (10th and 11th grade).
- A. Duncan: schedule lawmaker campus events with J. Singleton; A. Mason to help with introductions.
- A. Mason and D. Nerenberg: begin ESMA review with Steven; target board vote November 10.
- Dr. J: bring the Giving Tuesday plan, facility update (Green Channel, Colas estimate), and revised 2027 calendar to November 10.
- All: hold Friday, February 12, 3:00–7:00 PM for the board retreat.
- Optional: join the RSF DNA review on November 3 and dinners on November 2 and 5.

B. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
A. Mason

Documents used during the meeting

- Board Meeting Schedule 2027_proposed.docx.pdf
- 2 - Balance Sheet 26 09.pdf
- 3a - Budget Status Report 26 09.pdf
- 1 - Finance Dashboard 26 09.pdf

- Policy 2415 — Performance-Based Pathway for High School Graduation.pdf
- Procedure 2415P — Performance-Based Pathway for High School Graduation.pdf
- 3245__3245P_Students_and_Telecommunication_Devices_-_CLEAN_DRAFT_2026-10-26.pdf
- 1250redline.pdf
- 1250_cleandraft.pdf
- 1250Predline.pdf
- 1250p_cleandraft.pdf