

APPROVED



Rainier Valley Leadership Academy

Minutes

Board Meeting

August

Date and Time

Tuesday August 26, 2025 at 4:30 PM

Location

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

ID: 84606969879

Passcode: fYG8Twl1

[\(US\) +1 312-626-6799](#)

Passcode: 94774311

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84606969879?pwd=lv5KUsHKbQDaDZ9IPZBopoVbFpBseU.1&jst=2>

[Joining instructions](#)

In Person Option: 6020 Rainier Ave S. Seattle, WA 98118

Directors Present

J. Rhodes Jr (remote), M. Dyal (remote), R. Bembry (remote), T. Hayman (remote)

Directors Absent

E. Forde, M. Brown

Guests Present

Alyssa Fimbres (remote), Angela Thomas (remote), Benet Morgan (remote), Chastity Catchings (remote), Cookie Bembry (remote), Danielle Mann (remote), Dawn Mason (remote), Ellery Temple (remote), Italiana Hughes (remote), Joe Powell (remote), Keith Clark (remote), L. Reisberg (remote), Lenny Emperado (remote), Naeema Surin (remote), Nati Hardin (remote), Solana Jackson (remote), Tasneem Amer (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order

R. Bembry called a meeting of the board of directors of Rainier Valley Leadership Academy to order on Tuesday Aug 26, 2025 at 4:38 PM.

II. Public Testimony

A. As Needed

Elder Dawn Mason: Community Advisory Board Member

Elder Mason is requesting to see the BSK grant and be part of the process. Must be used for the school day activities. Would like to understand what the plan is and how they can be a part of the program. For the record:

1. See the contract
2. Be part of the planning meeting
3. Have advisory oversight to ensure compliance.

Nati Hardin: MS ELA Teacher

Would like to share some positive shout outs! Administration is incorporating scholar feedback much more than before. The staff is very appreciative. Gave several examples of how they are doing this. Lanny is working so hard on enrollment. Our new staff is very strong! Nati hopes we continue on with giving more voice & power to staff and community. All the changes can be overwhelming for staff. It could help if Board Members stop by and say hi and let folks know they are here for them.

III. Consent Agenda

A. Resolution June 24th, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes

M. Dyal made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting on 06-24-25.

T. Hayman seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

E. Forde Absent
M. Brown Absent

Roll Call

R. Bembry Aye

T. Hayman Aye

M. Dyal Aye

J. Rhodes Jr Aye

B. Resolution June & July 2025 Payroll & Claim Vouchers

Mike Dyal is requesting contracts that the finance committee needs to review. Please send contracts to Mike Dyal. He is still going to vote, but he will need to see those contracts. They were sent, but can be resent.

Payments have been audited and certified by the Auditing Officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090. Those payments have been recorded on a listing which has been made available to the board.

As of August 26, 2025, the Board, by a unanimous vote, approves payments, totaling \$172,490.68, and/or voids (cancellations), totaling \$0.00. The payments and/or voids are further identified in this document.

Total by Payment Type: ACH/Warrants - Public

Warrant Numbers 102666 through 102682, totaling \$73,406.58

AP ACH Numbers 9000003577 through 9000003595, totaling \$99,084.10

Payments have been audited and certified by the Auditing Officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090. Those payments have been recorded on a listing which has been made available to the board.

As of August 26, 2025, the Board, by a unanimous vote, approves payments, totaling \$207,594.81, and/or voids (cancellations), totaling \$0.00. The payments and/or voids are further identified in this document.

Total by Payment Type: ACH/Warrants - Public

Direct Deposit Numbers 9000003550 through 9000003576, totaling \$117,562.18

Payments have been audited and certified by the Auditing Officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090. Those payments have been recorded on a listing which has been made available to the board.

As of August 26, 2025, the Board, by a unanimous vote, approves payments, totaling \$417.40, and/or voids (cancellations), totaling \$0.00. The payments and/or voids are further identified in this document.

Total by Payment Type: WIRE-PUBLIC

Wire Transfer Payments 201900247 through 201900247, totaling \$417.40

In addition to the Check Summary Report below, we have also reviewed the following related documentation:

Payments have been audited and certified by the Auditing Officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090. Those payments have been recorded on a listing which has been made available to the board.

As of July 29, 2025, the Board, by a unanimous vote, approves payments, totaling \$78,553.69, and/or voids (cancellations), totaling \$0.00. The payments and/or voids are further identified in this document.

Total by Payment Type: ACH/Warrants - Public

Warrant Numbers 102623 through 102628, totaling \$60,815.13

AP ACH Numbers 9000003468 through 9000003497, totaling \$17,738.56

Payments have been audited and certified by the Auditing Officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090. Those payments have been recorded on a listing which has been made available to the board.

As of July 29, 2025, the Board, by a unanimous vote, approves payments, totaling \$226,092.16, and/or voids (cancellations), totaling \$0.00. The payments and/or voids are further identified in this document.

Total by Payment Type: ACH/Warrants - Public

Direct Deposit Numbers 9000003504 through 9000003532, totaling \$129,290.20

Payments have been audited and certified by the Auditing Officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090. Those payments have been recorded on a listing which has been made available to the board.

As of July 29, 2025, the Board, by a unanimous vote, approves payments, totaling \$183,835.46, and/or voids (cancellations), totaling \$0.00. The payments and/or voids are further identified in this document.

Total by Payment Type: ACH/Warrants - Public

Warrant Numbers 102644 through 102664, totaling \$109,460.08

AP ACH Numbers 9000003533 through 9000003548, totaling \$74,375.38

Payments have been audited and certified by the Auditing Officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090. Those payments have been recorded on a listing which has been made available to the board.

As of July 29, 2025, the Board, by a unanimous vote, approves payments, totaling \$52,912.58, and/or voids (cancellations), totaling \$0.00. The payments and/or voids are further identified in this document.

Total by Payment Type: ACH/Warrants - Public

Warrant Numbers 102629 through 102642, totaling \$45,308.02
AP ACH Numbers 9000003498 through 9000003503, totaling \$7,604.56

Payments have been audited and certified by the Auditing Officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090. Those payments have been recorded on a listing which has been made available to the board.

As of July 29, 2025, the Board, by a unanimous vote, approves payments, totaling \$417.40, and/or voids (cancellations), totaling \$0.00. The payments and/or voids are further identified in this document.

Total by Payment Type: WIRE-PUBLIC

Wire Transfer Payments 201900238 through 201900238, totaling \$417.40

C. Resolution May 9th Board Meeting Minutes

M. Dyal made a motion to approve the minutes from Special Board Meeting on 05-09-25.

T. Hayman seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

M. Dyal Aye
J. Rhodes Jr Aye
M. Brown Absent
E. Forde Absent
R. Bembry Aye
T. Hayman Aye

D. Resolution SY 2025/26 Scholar Handbooks

M. Dyal made a motion to Approve.

T. Hayman seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

M. Dyal Aye
M. Brown Absent
E. Forde Absent
J. Rhodes Jr Aye
T. Hayman Aye
R. Bembry Aye

E. Resolution 2025/6 Staff Handbook

M. Dyal made a motion to Approve.

T. Hayman seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

M. Dyal Aye
E. Forde Absent
M. Brown Absent
R. Bembry Aye
T. Hayman Aye
J. Rhodes Jr Aye

F. Resolution 2025/6 Finance & Accounting Handbook

M. Dyal made a motion to Approve.
T. Hayman seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

R. Bembry Aye
E. Forde Absent
M. Brown Absent
J. Rhodes Jr Aye
T. Hayman Aye
M. Dyal Aye

G. Resolution Out of Endorsement Teachers

M. Dyal made a motion to Approve.
T. Hayman seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

T. Hayman Aye
J. Rhodes Jr Aye
R. Bembry Aye
M. Dyal Aye
M. Brown Absent
E. Forde Absent

H. Resolution 2025/6 School Specific Goals

M. Dyal made a motion to Approve.
T. Hayman seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

R. Bembry Aye
T. Hayman Aye
M. Dyal Aye
M. Brown Absent
E. Forde Absent
J. Rhodes Jr Aye

I. Resolution 2025/26 Budget

R. Bembry made a motion to Approve.

M. Dyal seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

E. Forde Absent

M. Brown Absent

T. Hayman Aye

J. Rhodes Jr Aye

R. Bembry Aye

M. Dyal Aye

J. Resolution 25/26 Calendars

M. Dyal made a motion to Approve.

T. Hayman seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

T. Hayman Aye

J. Rhodes Jr Aye

M. Brown Absent

M. Dyal Aye

E. Forde Absent

R. Bembry Aye

IV. Mission Alignment

A. Mission Challenge-Enrollment

Lenny reviewed current enrollment numbers. Some of the ways he is connecting with community.

B. Mission Challenge-Budget Scenarios

Chastity Catchings reviews the budget. What we have control over and what is a fixed expense.

We have enough cash on hand to cover our expenses.

Gatres funding is tied to elementary enrollment. As long as numbers are in by October.

We budgeted incredibly conservative and will right size once we know our elementary enrollment numbers. From what we are seeing today we will likely get more money than in the budget currently.

Sept 8-P223 Count Date

Sept 15-goal to provide enrollment update

Sept 23-contingency planning if needed

October-Gates uses enrollment numbers to determine funding
October 15- Report out enrollment updates and how it impacts our budget

Cash flow-we need to ensure that we watch this very closely and ensure we are only spending what we already have.

October-do we need contingency planning?
December-look at forecasting for 2nd semester
Every quarter check our fundraising targets. Enrollment on track?
If not, how will we right size.

We need to be watching this closely!

Board is exploring different ways to save money. Looking at different providers. Some solid corporate leads that the board is pursuing.

Board needs to be involved in recruitment and fundraising.

Announcements:
Dr. Joe Powerll candidate for Executive Director
Give bio to staff and community.

V. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

J. Rhodes Jr made a motion to Adjourn.
M. Dyal seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

R. Bembry Aye
E. Forde Absent
M. Dyal Aye
T. Hayman Aye
M. Brown Absent
J. Rhodes Jr Aye

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
L. Reisberg

Documents used during the meeting

- Resolution August 2025 Minutes for June 2025 Mtgdocx.pdf
- AP Check Summary Report with Board Certification 6.3 Bamboo.pdf
- AP Check Summary Report with Board Certification 6.3.pdf
- AP Check Summary Report with Board Certification 6.13.pdf
- AP Check Summary Report with Board Certification 6.30.pdf
- Payroll Check Summary with Board Certification 6.30.pdf
- Payroll Check Summary with Board Certification 7.31 (1).pdf
- AP Check Summary Report with Board Certification 7.31 (1).pdf
- AP Check Summary Report with Board Certification 7.3.pdf
- Resolution August for June & July 2025 Vouchers & Payments.pdf
- Resolution August 2025 Minutes for May 9 2025 Mtgdocx.pdf
- Draft Elem 25-26 Scholar Handbook.docx.pdf
- SY 23_24 Updated Scholar Handbook Resolution.docx.pdf
- Draft 25-26 Scholar Handbook 6-12.pdf
- 25-26 Staff Handbook Draft docx (1) (1).pdf
- 25_26 Updated Staff Handbook Resolution.docx.pdf
- 25-26 Finance and Accounting Policies and Procedures.pdf
- Accounting Finance Handbook 2025_26 Resolution.docx.pdf
- Board Resolution (Out of Endorsement Placement) - January 2025.docx.pdf
- School Specific Goals SY 25_26 Resolution.docx.pdf
- SY 25-26 School Specific Goals 8.26 Draft (1).docx
- RVLA Budget Resolution 2025.26.docx.pdf
- RVLA - Board Resolution (2025-2026 School Year Calendars) .docx.pdf

Rainier Valley Leadership Academy Board of Directors Meeting Agenda 8/26/25