



Board of Trustees
MINUTES – Regular Meeting

Date: October 14, 2021 @ 4:00PM Central

Location: Downtown Omaha Hilton, Heardon Room, Omaha, NB - Held in conjunction with the NIEA conference

Board Members Present: Matthew Tso, Anderson Yazzie, Jr., Charley Long, Sr., Sherrick Roanhorse, and Student Ad Hoc Board Member: Ajahrain Yellowhair

I-III. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Invocation

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM by the Board President, Matthew Tso. Three elected board members were present for a quorum and the Student Ad Hoc member Ajahrain Yellowhair was also present. The fourth board member attended ten minutes later. Recording Secretary, Yvette Escojeda announced the roll call.

The invocation was provided by the Board of Trustees member, Mr. Charley Long, Sr.

IV. Approval of Agenda

The proposed agenda for Thursday, October 14th, was approved with no changes requested.

NPS Motion/Second: Anderson Yazzie, Jr./ Charley Long, Sr. Motion carried 3-0-1

V. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the September 22nd, Board Meeting were approved with no changes.

NPS Motion/Second: Charley Long, Sr./ Anderson Yazzie, Jr. Motion carried 3-0-1

VI. Introduction of Guests, Public Comments & Announcements

The Board of Trustees introduced themselves and the Head of School, Shawna A. Becenti introduced the Administration Team members, also in attendance were community members: Craig Sandoval, Priscilla Benally, McKinley School Board and Navajo Nation School Board Representative, Stephanie Becenti, Zuni Public School Board Member and Hozho Academy Assistant Principal.

Announcements: Head of School, Shawna A. Becenti announced that Navajo Preparatory School will have the Hogan Groundbreaking Ceremony and Protection Prayer on October 28th, and we have invited State of New Mexico Legislators to attend. Board Member Sherrick Roanhorse gave an update on his recent travel and attendance to the AISES conference. Mr. Roanhorse also hosted an alumni event during the AISES Conference.

VII. Reports

A. Head of School, Shawna A. Becenti gave a quick update on current projects, and also gave an update on the reauthorization resolutions that have been approved with the chapters of Chinle, and Crownpoint. Eastern Agency's resolution will take place on December 4, 2021.

B. Dean of Instruction, Keith Neil gave an update on his recent professional development with the IB program. Mr. Neil also mentioned that IB program has been working closely with a mentor from the MYP program. Mr. Neil also stated that the week of November 15th will be completely virtual, and the only students on campus will be our athletes who are trying out for basketball.

C. Network Administrator, Mr. Sean Bekis has been working diligently on the card key access project.

D. School Nurse, Kandice Duvall, RN gave an update on the School Based Health Centers student surveillance testing project, in the past three weeks the average students tested has been fifty (50) and all three weeks all test samples have been negative.

VIII. Unfinished Business N/A

IX. New Business

A. Resolution Approval: Increase Budget-Johnson O'Mally Carryover

Director of Finance, Malinda Fowler read the resolution requesting approval from the Board to increase the budget due to carry over funds.

1 **B. Resolution Approval: Authorizing Performance Incentives for Employees**

2 Director of Human Resources, Manuel Watchman read the resolution requesting approval from the
3 Board of NPS to authorize performance incentives for employees to be paid in December for all staff.
4 NPS currently employs eighty-four (84) full time employees and fifty-nine (59) part time employees.
5 Our employee retention rate is 88.57%

6
7 The Board of Trustees agreed to combined items A-B together for voting purposes.
8 NPS Motion by Anderson Yazzie, Jr./Charley Long, Sr. Motion Carried 4-0-0

9 **X. Personnel**

10 **A. Approval: New Hires**

11 Director of Human Resources, Manuel Watchman requested approval for a listing of new hires.

12 **B. Resignations**

13 Director of Human Resources, Manuel Watchman read a memo announcing the departure of
14 employees.

15 **C. Resolution Approval: Modification to the Personnel Policy SY 21-22**

16 Director of Human Resources, Manuel Watchman read a resolution which has three addendums
17 request: (1) approval to add an addendum to the policy manual concerning stipend pays for acting
18 positions, (2) change part E. Hiring Practices in the policy manual, Section 5 Reference
19 Checks/Background Checks to now read “however the school will pay for all periodic reviews
20 thereafter,” and (3) modify part E. Hiring Practices in the policy manual, Section 5 Reference
21 Checks/Background Checks to add the following waiver, “The supervisor of a department can
22 request a newly hired employee to start immediately pending a background check provided that the
23 employee is supervised and monitored by an employee with a completed and current background
24 check.”

25 **D. Memo Approval: Background Waiver Fee**

26 Director of Human Resources, Manuel Watchman read a memo requesting help mitigate problems and
27 be proactive. One barrier that we can remove to create a seamless onboarding process is to waive
28 background check fees.

29
30 The Board of Trustees agreed to combine items A - D together for voting purposes.
31 NPS Motion/Second: Sherrick Roanhorse/Anderson Yazzie, Jr. Motion carried 4-0-0

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33 **XI. Travel**

34 **A. Approval: National Association for Bilingual Education International Conference, February 6-11,**
35 **2022, New York, NY**

36 **B. Discussion: Winter Retreat**

37 A cost analysis was presented to the board, and the decision was made to have the winter board
38 meeting in Portland, OR in conjunction with alumni outreach and to build IB partnerships in the area.
39 The dates on the meeting are December 9-11.

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41 The Dean of Instruction gave the details for item A, in which our Navajo language teacher will travel to
42 New York for professional development in February 2022. The Board of Trustees approved travel items
43 A and B.

44 NPS Motion by Charley Long, Sr./Anderson Yazzie, Jr. Motion Carried 4-0-0

45 **XII. Future Business, Next Meeting Date & Adjournment**

46 The next regular meeting for the Board will take place on November 16th at 5:30 PM and will continue
47 to be held virtually for the public in accordance with the Navajo Nation stay-at-home ordinances.
48 The meeting adjourned at 5:23 P.M. Motion Carried 4-0-0

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3 **Minutes approved on 11/16/2021.**

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Matthew Tso, President

6 M/S Anderson Yazzie, Jr. / Charley Long, Sr.