



Board of Trustees
MINUTES – Regular Meeting
December 15, 2020 @ 5:30 P.M.

4 **Board Members Present:** Sherrick Roanhorse, Matthew Tso, Anderson Yazzie, Jr., Charley Long, Sr.
5 Student Ad Hoc Board Member: Cade Allison

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

7 The meeting was called to order at 5:33PM by the Board President, Sherrick Roanhorse. All four elected
8 board members were present for a quorum. Recording Secretary, Yvette Escojeda announced roll call in
9 which all of the board members were present.

10 The invocation was provided by the Dean of Student Life, Mr. Leland Becenti.

11
12 **IV. Approval of Agenda**

13 The proposed agenda for Tuesday, December 15th was approved with the following recommended
14 changes:

15 Move New Business to #VI, under New Business move item B to item C, add item B: Capital Outlay
16 Updates. Personnel now number #VII, then #VIII: Introduction of Guests, and #IX: Reports.

17 Mr. Long to move the action/voting items first.

18 NPS Motion/Second: Matthew Tso/Anderson Yazzie, Jr.

Motion carried 4-0-0

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20 **V. Approval of Minutes**

21 The minutes for November 17th, Regular Board Meeting were approved with no changes.

22 NPS Motion/Second: Anderson Yazzie, Jr./Matthew Tso

Motion carried 4-0-0

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24 **VI. New Business**

25 **A. Resolution Approval:** Finalize the 2019-20 School Year Audit

26 Head of School, Shawna A. Becenti read the resolution to approve the school year 2019-20 audit.
27 Shawna A. Becenti introduced our school auditor Michael Lauzon from Heinfield, Meech & Co. Mr. Lauzon
28 gave an overview of the 2019-2020 Single Audit Reporting Package. Mr. Lauzon started the review with the
29 Financial Statement and gave NPS an “unmodified opinion,” which he stated is the highest opinion that is
30 received. He also said that the audit had “no significance weaknesses, basically a clean audit, and does have
31 some recommendations for NPS.”

32 NPS Motion/Second: Charley Long, Sr./Anderson Yazzie, Jr.

Motion carried 4-0-0

33 **B. Updates:** Capital Outlay

34 Head of School, Shawna A. Becenti and our consultant Mr. Robert Apodaca updated the Board of Trustees
35 on Navajo Prep’s Development Team’s plan for capital outlay requests for the 2021 State of New Mexico
36 Legislative Session. Navajo Prep’s requests will include: general infrastructure-renovations, improvements
37 to our pavements, technology and security upgrades: keyless entry, servers for our campus, and possibly
38 building 32. Robert Apodaca mentioned that the 2021 Legislative Session may be pushed to the summer
39 dependent upon the current COVID-19 pandemic. Board President Sherrick Roanhorse and School Board
40 Member Charley Long, Sr. thanked the Development Groups dedication and time.

41 **C. Review: BIE Annual Report**

42 Head of School, Shawna A. Becenti announced that the Annual BIE Report was submitted on September 30,
43 2020 a required by the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE). School Board Secretary, Anderson Yazzie, Jr.
44 recommended that NPS add all official/major reporting completed by the school to the Head of School report. Which
45 will allow the Board of Trustees to see which reports have been completed and submitted.

46 Motion/Second: Matthew Tso/ Anderson Yazzie, Jr.

Motion carried 4-0-0

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48 **VII. Personnel**

49 **A. New Hire:** Director of Human Resources

50 Head of School, Shawna A. Becenti, read the Human Resources memo recommending the hire of Manuel
51 Watchman as the Director of Human Resources. Mr. Watchman brings numerous years of experience in
52 school-based human resources. Mr. Watchman summarized his past experience and stated that he shares
53 Navajo Preps values. Mr. Watchman also mentioned that during the interview he admired the positivity
54 and the team collaboration amongst the interview panel.

1 NPS Motion by Anderson Yazzie, Jr./Matthew Tso

Motion Carried 4-0-0

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3 **VIII. Introduction of Guests, Public Comments and Announcements**

4 The Board of Trustees introduced themselves to all the attendees and then our Board President, Sherrick
5 Roanhorse introduced our guests: Robert Apodaca-RMA Advisory Group, Craig Sandoval-community
6 member, Michael Lauzon-Heinfield, Meech, & Co., LeAndra James-parent, Cheryl Benally-parent.
7

8 **X. Unfinished Business**

9 **A.** Defer to Next Meeting: Resolution to Amend the 2020-21 Personnel Policy

10 The group agreed that this item will be tabled to the January Board Meeting so that our new Director of
11 Human Resources can review and update the policy.
12

13 **IX. Reports**

14 **A.** Dean Student and Community Engagement, Ms. Darah Tabrum and Admissions Coordinator, Roderick
15 Denetso presented a PowerPoint on Navajo Prep Admissions for the 2021-22 School year, and also shared
16 metrics in relation to college matriculation.
17

18 **XI. Travel - N/A**

19
20 **XII. Future Business, Next Meeting Date & Adjournment**

21 The next regular meeting for the Board will continue as the third Tuesday of each month at 5:30PM, which
22 will be January 19, 2021. The School Board meetings will continue to be held virtually in accordance with
23 the State and Navajo Nation stay at home ordinances.

24 The meeting adjourned at 7:48 P.M.

Motion Carried 4-0-0

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26 **Minutes approved on _____.**

Sherrick Roanhorse, President

27
28 M/S:

29
30 **Minutes prepared by:** Yvette Escojeda