



Navajo Preparatory School, Inc.

Monthly October 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

1 Date of Meeting: 10/18/2024 | 1:00 PM MDT

2 Location of Meeting: Navajo Preparatory School

3 Present at the Meeting: Attendees (18): Sherrick Roanhorse, President; Craig Lee
4 Sandoval, Vice-President; Dr. Bernadette Todacheene, Secretary;
5 Anderson Yazzie, Jr., Member At Large; Haylei Redhouse, Ad-Hoc
6 Member; Shawna Becenti, Head of School; Keith Neil, Associate
7 Head of School of Academics & Operations; Dr. Darah Tabrum,
8 Associate Head of School of Advancement & Operations; Manuel
9 Watchman, Division Director of Business & Human Services; Kevin
10 Belin, Director of the Diné Bizaad Institute; April Chee, Executive
11 Assistant to the Head of School; Victoria Acosta, Student Life
12 Coordinator; Walter Collins, Security Guard; Shawn Clitso,
13 Security Guard; Sean Bekis, Director of Technology; Jocelyn
14 Frank, Business Office & HR Tech; Yvette Escojeda, Advocacy &
15 Outreach Coordinator; Leanne Magnuson, Donor Relations
16 Coordinator San Juan College Foundation

17 The regular October board meeting of Navajo Preparatory School, Inc. was convened at 1:03
18 pm on October 18, 2024, with Sherrick Roanhorse, President, presiding. Three elected board
19 members were present, establishing a quorum, and the recording secretary announced the
20 roll call.

21 **INVOCATION**

22 Dr. Bernadette Todacheene, Secretary, provided the invocation.

23 **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

24 The Land Acknowledgement was read by Student Ad-Hoc Haylei Redhouse.

25 **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

26 The proposed agenda for Friday, October 18, 2024, was approved with a request to add two
27 additional line items under Item XI. Travel.

28 Motion to approve the agenda made by Dr. Bernadette Todacheene and seconded by Craig
29 Sandoval. Vote: 3-0-0

30 **REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

31 The minutes of the meeting held on September 21, 2024, were reviewed and approved with
32 no modifications

33 Motion to approve previous minutes made by Craig Sandoval and seconded by Dr.
34 Bernadette Todacheene. Vote: 3-0-0

35 **CONSIDERATION OF OPEN ISSUES**

36 **INTRODUCTIONS OF GUESTS, PUBLIC COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

37 Keith Neil, Associate Head of School of Academics & Operations, introduced Navajo
38 Preparatory School staff present at the meeting in-person and virtually. The Board of Trustees
39 introduced themselves to guests of the meeting. Mr. Neil announced that parent teacher
40 conferences had a great turnout with positive feedback. Additionally, Mr. Neil shared the
41 success of staff appreciation luncheon that took place and thanked staff responsible for
42 coordinating the event. Dr. Darah Tabrum, Associate Head of School of Advancement &
43 Outreach, gave an update on the Hozhó Naasha pageant and thanked the Board of Trustees
44 members who were present for their support. Dr. Tabrum also shared that the students have
45 coordinated to participate in the Western Navajo Fair Parade for the first time in at least 10
46 years.

47



Navajo Preparatory School, Inc.
Monthly October 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

1 **REPORTS**

2 A. Administrative Team

3 Head of School, Shawna Becenti, shared highlights from the Building 32 Townhall
4 event and gave an update on upcoming priorities and events. The administrative team
5 members reviewed department initiatives and outcomes aligned to strategic goals as
6 outlined in the Navajo Prep Strategic Plan. Division Director of Business and Human
7 Services, Manuel Watchman, gave an update on the financial reports from September
8 2024.

9 C. Haylei Redhouse, Student Senate

10 Haylei Redhouse, Ad-Hoc Member and Student Senate President, shared highlights
11 and planning objectives from each class and the Student Senate.

12 D. Board of Trustees

13 Anderson Yazzie Jr., Member At Large, gave an update on attending the NIEA Trade
14 Show & Convention where there were great networking opportunities and engaging
15 with potential students. Mr. Yazzie also shared that he attended the Hozhó Naasha
16 pageant as a judge and that it was a wonderful event where the audience could see
17 first hand how we support the students and operate as a school. Dr. Bernadette
18 Todacheene, Secretary, shared that she attended the Northern Navajo Fair Parade
19 and it was a great opportunity to support the school, students, and engage with
20 community. Dr. Todacheene also attended the Hozhó Naasha pageant and noted that
21 it was a unique pageant among others. Craig Sandoval, Vice President, gave an
22 update on attending the Building 32 Townhall event where he provided the welcome
23 to attended and shared personal experiences as an alum of Navajo Prep. Mr. Sandoval
24 also attended the Northern Navajo Fair Parade where he had the opportunity to
25 connect with community and leaders. Sherrick Roanhorse, President, thanked the
26 board members for their presence at various events. Mr. Roanhorse was able to join
27 the board members at the Building 32 Townhall and Northern Navajo Fair Parade. In
28 addition, Mr. Roanhorse gave an update on attending a dinner with Aiglon College in
29 Santa Fe to meet with alumni, donors, and the families of former Navajo Prep students.

30 E. GO Bond Presentation, LeAnne Magnuson

31 LeAnne Magnuson, Donor Relations Coordinator San Juan College Foundation, gave
32 a presentation on the impacts of the upcoming State GO Bond Election. Mr. Roanhorse
33 requested that the presentation be shared with Navajo Prep staff and community.

34
35

CONSIDERATION OF NEW BUSINESS

36 A. Resolution Approval: Bureau of Indian Education Pay Parity Legislation

37 Mrs. Becenti reviewed the resolution to approve to endorse the Indigenous Students
38 Excel through Parity Act of 2024.

39 B. Resolution Approval: Performance Pay Incentives

40 Mrs. Becenti reviewed the resolution to approve performance pay incentives for Navajo
41 Preparatory School staff.

42 C. Resolution Approval: International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme Admissions Policy

43 Mrs. Becenti reviewed the resolution to approve the admissions policy for the IB
44 Diploma Programme and turned over to Mr. Neil for further information. Mr. Neil
45 shared that this policy is a requirement for the IB review and policies will be
46 formalized and added to the Community Handbook.

47
48



Monthly October 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

- 1 D. Resolution Approval: Budget Adjustment
2 Mrs. Becenti reviewed the resolution to approve the 2024-2025 SY budget
3 modification for additional grant revenue and applauded the team for applying and
4 utilizing grant funds.
- 5 E. Resolution Approval: Off Contract Pay Policy Amendment
6 Mrs. Becenti reviewed the resolution to amend the off contract pay policy and noted
7 that the added phrase allows for the Head of School to designate an administrator to
8 work a non-contract day and be on-call.
- 9 F. Approval Memo: Special Education Support Services
10 Mr. Neil reviewed the memo for Special Education Support Services to request
11 authorization to enter into agreements with service providers to meet the needs of
12 students and their Individualized Education Plans.
- 13 Motion to approve Items A-F made by Anderson Yazzie Jr. and seconded by Dr. Bernadette
14 Todacheene. Vote: 4-0-0
- 15 **PERSONNEL**
- 16 A. Approval Personnel Memo: Resignations
- 17 B. Approval Personnel Memo: New Hires
18 Mr. Watchman reviewed the resignations and new hires.
- 19 Motion to approve Items A-B made by Anderson Yazzie Jr. and seconded by Dr. Bernadette
20 Todacheene. Vote: 4-0-0
- 21 **TRAVEL**
- 22 A. Approval: American Orff Schulwerk Association National Conference 2024 – Des
23 Moines, IA, November 12-17, 2024
24
25 Mr. Neil reviewed the travel request for Martha McCabe, Music Teacher, to present
26 and attend at the American Orff Schulwerk Association National Conference.
27
- 28 B. Approval: National Student Safety and Security Conference & Workshop – Las Vegas,
29 NV, November 18-20, 2024
30
31 Mrs. Becenti reviewed the travel request for two security guards to attend the
32 National Student Safety and Security Conference & Workshop as recommended by
33 the Safety & EMS Coordinator.
34
- 35 C. Approval: International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme ESS Internal Assessment
36 – Arlington, VA, December 7-9, 2024
37
38 Mr. Neil reviewed the travel request for Lisa Atcity, Social Studies Teacher, to attend
39 the IB DP ESS Internal Assessment training.
40
- 41 D. Approval: Mexico Exchange Program – San Luis Potosi, Mexico, January 11-February
42 22, 2025
43
44 Mr. Neil reviewed the travel request for two students and two staff members to travel
45 to San Luis Potosi, Mexico for the exchange program with Terranova.
46
- 47 E. Approval: International Baccalaureate MYP Role of the Coordinator – Los Angeles, CA,
48 January 18-20, 2025
49
50 Mr. Neil reviewed the travel request for Giovanni Romeo, Dean of Academics & IB
51 Coordinator, to attend the IB MYP Role of the Coordinator training.
52
- 53 F. Approval: International Baccalaureate MYP Managing Assessment – Vancouver,
54 Canada, January 31-February 2, 2025



Navajo Preparatory School, Inc.
Monthly October 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34

Mr. Neil reviewed the travel request for Yolanda Flores and Allison Henry, Science Teachers, to attend the IB MYP Managing Assessment training.

G. Approval: Diné Bi Olta School Board Association Winter Conference 2024 – Las Vegas, NV, December 11-15, 2024

Mrs. Becenti reviewed travel for Dr. Bernadette Todacheene to attend the DBOSBA Winter Conference 2024. Mr. Roanhorse requested that travel be extended to all board members and one staff member if available. Mrs. Becenti noted that she will inquire about Navajo Prep presenting at the DBOSBA Winter Conference.

H. Approval: Close Up High School Native Youth Summit – Washington, D.C., April 4-12, 2025

Mr. Neil reviewed the travel request for ten students and two staff members to travel for the Close Up High School Native Youth Summit with approved funding from Senator Heinrich that will continue for 4 years.

Motion to approve Items A-H made by Anderson Yazzie Jr. and seconded by Dr. Bernadette Todacheene. Vote: 4-0-0

AGENDA AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on November 15, 2024 at 9:00 AM at Navajo Preparatory School – Hogan.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 2:41 PM by Sherrick Roanhorse, President.

M/S: none taken

Sherrick Roanhorse,
President

Dr. Bernadette Todacheene,
Secretary/Treasurer