



Navajo Preparatory School, Inc.

Monthly September Board Meeting Minutes

1 Date of Meeting: 09/26/2025 | 1:00 PM MT

2 Location of Meeting: Navajo Preparatory School

3 Present at the Meeting: Attendees (21): Dr. Bernadette Todacheene, President; Jennifer
4 Redhouse, Vice President; Charley Long, Sr.,
5 Secretary/Treasurer; Ernestine Begay, Member at Large; Marlene
6 Laughter, Member at Large; Bradley Redhouse, Ad-Hoc Member;
7 Shawna Becenti, Head of School; Keith Neil, Associate Head of
8 School for Academics & Operations; Dr. Darah Tabrum, Associate
9 Head of School for Advancement & Outreach; Manuel Watchman,
10 Division Director of Business & Human Services; Kevin Belin,
11 Director of the Diné Bizaad Institute; April Chee, Executive
12 Assistant to the Head of School; Sean Bekis, Director of
13 Technology; Fabrienne Denet, School Based Health Center
14 Assistant; Terri Yazzie Bochinclonny, Senior Accountant; Jocelyn
15 Jones, Human Resource Manager; Dustin Begay, Navajo
16 Language Teacher; Yvette Escojeda, Advocacy & Outreach
17 Coordinator; Sanjay Engineer, FBT Architects; Art Tatum, FBT
18 Architects; Diana Duran, FBT Architects

19 The September Board Meeting of Navajo Preparatory School, Inc. was convened at 2:02 PM
20 on September 26, 2025, with the Board President, Dr. Bernadette Todacheene presiding.
21 Three elected board members were present, establishing a quorum, and the recording
22 secretary announced the roll call.

23 **INVOCATION**

24 Charley Long, Sr., Secretary/Treasurer, provided the invocation.

25 **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

26 The Land Acknowledgement was read by Student Ad-Hoc Bradley Redhouse.

27 **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

28 The proposed agenda for September 26, 2025 was approved with no edits or modifications.

29 Motion to approve the agenda made by Charley Long, Sr. and seconded by Ernestine Begay.

30 Vote: 3-0-0

31 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

32 The meeting minutes held on August 25, 2025 were approved with no edits or modifications.

33 Motion to approve the August Board Meeting minutes made by Charley Long, Sr. and
34 seconded by Ernestine Begay.

Vote: 3-0-0

35 **CONSIDERATION OF OPEN ISSUES**

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

37 Marlene Laughter, Member at Large, and Jennifer Redhouse, Vice President, joined the
38 meeting. Shawna Becenti, Head of School, introduced Navajo Prep staff present at the
39 meeting both in person and virtually. Mrs. Becenti gave an update on the Residential Home
40 HVAC project funding. The Board of Trustees introduced themselves to guests in person and
41 online and expressed thanks to the staff for their work on ongoing and upcoming projects.

42 **REPORTS**

43 A. Indigenous STEAM Facility Project, FBT Architects

44 FBT Architects provided a presentation to the Board of Trustees and attendees of the
45 meeting to give an update on the Indigenous STEAM Facility project design. Updates
46 included the proposed floor plans and renderings of the new build. Shawna Becenti,



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1 Head of School, requested that FBT Architects be prepared for a more in depth
2 presentation and updates at the upcoming Winter Work Session.

3 B. Administrative Team

4 The Administrative Team presented an update to the Board of Trustees covering a
5 range of topics, including recent congressional outreach, campus improvements, grant
6 activity, community engagement, staff goals, school programming, student residential
7 updates, and upcoming priorities. The Board requested calendar invitations and
8 additional details for upcoming school events where trustee participation is
9 encouraged.

10 C. Student Senate, Bradley Redhouse

11 Bradley Redhouse delivered the Student Senate report, highlighting current leadership
12 and vacancies, recent and upcoming school events, after-school programs, and class-
13 led initiatives.

14 D. Board of Trustees

15 Jennifer Redhouse, Vice President, shared a report on her recent attendance at the
16 Navajo Nation Fair Parade and was looking forward to attending the Northern Navajo
17 Nation Fair Parade. Ernestine Begay, Member at Large, shared that she attended the
18 Tonalea Chapter Meeting to present Navajo Prep's request for re-authorization and
19 the Blue Gap Chapter Planning Meeting to introduce herself to the community. Ms.
20 Begay also attended the recent Cross Country Chinle Invitational to support the Navajo
21 Prep cross country team. Ms. Begay also shared that she was looking forward to
22 attending the Northern Navajo Nation Fair Parade with the school. Charley Long, Sr.,
23 Secretary/Treasurer, recently attended the Eastern Agency Meeting in support of
24 Navajo Prep's request for re-authorization and shared that community was supportive
25 of the school and had great feedback. Mr. Long expressed his thanks for coordinating
26 the upcoming professional development opportunity for him to attend the NIEA
27 Convention & Trade Show.

28 **CONSENT AGENDA**

29 X. New Business

- 30 A. Resolution Approval: Master Plan Re-Design
- 31 B. Resolution Approval: 2025-2026 SY Bureau of Indian Education Narratives
- 32 C. Resolution Approval: 2025-2026 SY Continuity of Operations Plan
- 33 D. Resolution Approval: 2025-2026 SY Community Handbook Amendments

34 XI. Personnel

- 35 A. Approval Memo: Special Education Teacher

36 Motion to move agenda items X. New Business and XI. Personnel to Consent Agenda made
37 by Charley Long, Sr. and seconded by Jennifer Redhouse. Vote: 5-0-0

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AGENDA AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

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The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on October 24, 2025 at 1:00 PM at Navajo Preparatory School.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:53 PM by Dr. Bernadette Todacheene, Board President.

M/S: none taken

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Dr. B. Todacheene", written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Bernadette Todacheene
President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Charley Long Sr.", written over a horizontal line.

Charley Long, Sr.,
Secretary/Treasurer