



Navajo Preparatory School, Inc.

Monthly November Board Meeting Minutes

1 Date of Meeting: 11/12/2025 | 1:00 PM

2 Location of Meeting: Navajo Preparatory School

3 Present at the Meeting: Attendees (23): 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; Dr. Darah Tabrum, Associate  
8 Head of School for Advancement & Outreach; Manuel Watchman,  
9 Division Director of Business & Human Services; Kevin Belin,  
10 Director of the Diné Bizaad Institute; Jerrold Platero, Facility &  
11 Operations Manager; April Chee, Executive Assistant to the Head  
12 of School; Jocelyn Jones, Human Resource Manager; Anthony  
13 Smith, Student Support Coordinator; Jonah Madison, Community  
14 Member; Jhiro Madison, Community Member; Stephanie Coon,  
15 Cross Country Coach; Eagle's Cross Country Team  
16

17 The November Board Meeting of Navajo Preparatory School, Inc. was convened at 1:12 PM  
18 on November 12, 2025, with the Board President, Dr. Bernadette Todacheene presiding. All  
19 elected board members were present, establishing a quorum, and the recording secretary  
20 announced the roll call.

21 **INVOCATION**

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

23 **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

24 The Land Acknowledgement was read by Ad-Hoc Member Bradley Redhouse.

25 **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

26 The proposed agenda for November 11, 2025, was approved with the addition of Item XI.  
27 Personnel – Approval Memo: Out of School Time Specialist and 2025-2026 SY Organizational  
28 Chart Amendments.

29 Motion to approve the agenda made by Jennifer Redhouse and seconded by Ernestine Begay.  
30 Vote: 5-0-0

31 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

32 The October Board Meeting minutes from October 24, 2025, were approved with no edits or  
33 modifications.

34 Motion to approve the October Board Meeting minutes made by Charley Long, Sr. and  
35 seconded by Jennifer Redhouse. Vote: 5-0-0

36

37 **CONSIDERATION OF OPEN ISSUES**

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

39 Shawna Becenti, Head of School, introduced herself and the Navajo Prep staff present at  
40 the board meeting both in person and virtually. The Board of Trustees introduced  
41 themselves to guests present at the board meeting. Mrs. Becenti introduced Stephanie  
42 Coon, Cross Country Coach, to the Board of Trustees and turned over to Coach Coon for  
43 introductions. Ms. Coon introduced the Eagle's Cross Country team to the Board of Trustees  
44 and guests present at the board meeting. The Eagle's Cross Country team achieved second  
45 place at the NMAA 3A State Championship meet with Elijah England as a state champion  
46 and Kenai Begaye with a 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish. Dylan Lansing, Senior at Navajo Prep, spoke on  
47 behalf of the Eagle's Cross Country team and shared their experience from the season and



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1 at the championship meet. The Board of Trustees shared their congratulations to the Eagle's  
2 Cross Country team and coach and noted that our student athletes are making great  
3 achievements both inside and outside of the classroom. Mrs. Becenti then shared with the  
4 Board of Trustees the special recognition Navajo Preparatory School has received as being  
5 one of eight schools internationally short-listed for the TES International School of the Year  
6 Award. Mrs. Becenti also expressed her appreciation to Jerrold Platero and Kevin Belin for  
7 their efforts in completing the Student Success Center and Diné Bizaad Institute renovation.

8 **REPORTS**

9 A. Administrative Team

10 Kevin Belin, Director of the Diné Bizaad Institute, presented department updates and  
11 highlights for the Academics & Operations department including Unity Day, Unit  
12 Evaluations, Athletics, and the recent visit with Aiglon College. Mr. Belin also shared  
13 an update and completed a workshop with the Board of Trustees on the Diné Bizaad  
14 App that is in development. Dr. Darah Tabrum, Associate Head of School for  
15 Advancement & Outreach, shared updates on admissions, advocacy, technology,  
16 outreach, and grant management. Jerrold Platero, Facilities & Operations Manager,  
17 provided a report on the Grounds & Maintenance team sharing their work in  
18 maintaining the athletic fields on campus. Manuel Watchman, Division Director of  
19 Business & Human Services, gave an update on the November financials statement  
20 and an overview of new hires and resignations. Shawna Becenti, Head of School,  
21 shared with the Board of Trustees upcoming events and priorities including the  
22 Protection Prayer, Winter Work Session, DBOSBA & DGSA Winter Conference, and  
23 the Navajo Prep Staff Holiday Party. Mrs. Becenti also shared upcoming professional  
24 development travel including the National Congress for American Indians Convention  
25 & Trade Show, WIPCE 2025 Aotearoa, and 2025 American Orff-Schulwerk  
26 Association Annual Conference.  
27

28 B. Student Senate

29 Bradley Redhouse, Ad Hoc Member, provided a report on behalf of the Student  
30 Senate. The report included updated Student Senate positions, events, The Kids  
31 Care Kit Drive, and reports from each class on recent activities and upcoming goals.  
32

33 C. Board of Trustees

34 No reports at this time.  
35

36 **CONSENT AGENDA**

37 A. Resolution Approval: Staff Retention and Incentive Pay

38 B. Resolution Approval: New Mexico Activities Association 3A District 1 Account

39 C. Resolution Approval: Navajo Nation Matching Funds and Potential Loan Opportunity for  
40 Completion of the Indigenous STEAM Facility

41 XI. Personnel

42 A. Approval Memo: Out of School Time Specialist and 2025-2026 SY Organizational  
43 Chart Amendment

44 Motion to move New Business Items A-C and Personnel Item A to Consent Agenda made by  
45 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 December 10, 2025 at 8:30 AM in Scottsdale, AZ following the Winter Work Session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 3:34 PM.

M/S: Jennifer Redhouse / Ernestine Begay

Handwritten signature of Dr. Bernadette Todacheene in blue ink.

Dr. Bernadette Todacheene,  
President

Handwritten signature of Charley Long, Sr. in blue ink.

Charley Long, Sr.,  
Secretary/Treasurer