

Minutes of the Governing Council Meeting

Date: September 25, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

Location: Middle College High School Administrative Office

Meeting was in-person with all materials available at mchsgallup.com

Governing Council Members:

Lisa Bracken, President – Present

Monica Yazzie, Vice President – Present @ 5:08 pm

Dr. Carolyn Kuchera, Secretary – Present

Janene Yazzie, Member – Not Present

Joshua Turney, Member – Present

Heather Clah, Member - Present

Agenda Item I

1. Call to Order-Ms. Bracken called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.
2. Roll Call declared open meeting; quorum was present for the meeting.

Agenda Item II

1. Approval of the September 25, 2024 Agenda: *Ms. Bracken asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Dr. Kuchera motioned to approve, seconded by Mr. Turney. Roll call vote with all members in favor.*
2. Approval of the August 28, 2024 Governing Board Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented: *Dr. Hunter noted that the minutes should be corrected to Regular Meeting Minutes and not Special Meeting Minutes. Ms. Bracken asked for a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes. Dr. Kuchera motioned to approve, seconded by Ms. Clah. Roll call vote with all members in favor.*

Agenda Item III

1. Public Comment: *MCHS 12th grade student, Ryanelle Velarde, who is the National Honor Society Vice President reported that their sponsored food drive was a success. A total of 1200 units or ½ ton of food items was donated to the Community Pantry. She was pleased with the participation from all MCHS students.*
2. Teacher's Report: *No teacher's report.*
3. Counselor's /Student Support Director's Report: *Mr. Knowles reported he has uploaded the preliminary spreadsheet for PSAT testing. He is waiting for College Board to verify the information and he can begin student registration. Notifications will be sent out to the Sophomores and Juniors who will be testing. Mr. Knowles noted that the McKinney Vento Program has a new portal and that he was notified that the State will no longer pay for McKinney Vento training. He will send out information at a later time for the required training for Board members, staff and teachers. Senior agreements have started and he will continue to get those completed. Ms. Thompson reported feedback from her fly-in program visit to Yale, Brown University, and MIT. She participated in networking with other high school counselors who work in rural schools across the country. She observed presentations from admissions and financial aid representatives, and attended discussions on higher education affordability. She indicated that she is working with Mr. Knowles on creating a school profile, and that she and Ms. Sandoval are planning to host workshops for Seniors in October covering the common application, personal essays, and financial aid. Ms. Bracken inquired if she has been meeting with seniors individually and Ms. Thompson indicated that she has only been doing so when approached by them. Ms. Bracken inquired how many seniors are in the current graduating class and was informed that the number is 39. She explained to Ms. Thompson that with such a manageable number of seniors, the expectation is to meet with every one of them.*
4. Principal's Report: *Ms. Gonzales reported that the last few days have been busy dealing with the statewide social media threats. Administration has been supportive of staff, students, and parents, who have been concerned and/or anxious because of the threats. UNM campus police and local law enforcement have stepped up patrols on campus to make their presence more visibly known. Administration has been trying to reassure parents, teachers and students about how to stay safe. Dr. Hunter also noted that the school has practiced multiple lockdown and evacuation drills already this year. Related to student academic support, Ms. Gonzales reported that teachers have been conducting check-ins with their seminar students.. These check-ins will be ongoing throughout the year. State reporting is also in progress, as the 40th day report date is approaching on October 9th.*
5. GC Board Members' Report: *No GC Board Members' report.*
 - a. Summary of Finance Committee Meeting: *Ms. Bracken reported that there were no unusual items in the Finance Committee's review of the past month's financials, and relayed that paperwork is being completed for the Purchase card from NM Bank and Trust.*
6. Finance Report: *September Forecast-Financial Report presented by Ms. Katie Rarick*
7. CEO's Report
 - a. Equity Council Update: PLC Teaching with Poverty and Equity in Mind: *Dr. Hunter reported that Professional Development is in progress with teachers using this specific text and working on Chapter 5. Each week a*

different staff member presents/leads the reading on each chapter and the group discusses the readings in the afternoon meetings. It is about how to work with students in a meaningful and supportive way, focusing on equity and embracing a culturally responsive and reflective mindset.

- b. PCSNM Conference, Dec 12-13: *Conference will be held at the Tamaya Resort. If members are able to attend on Thursday, December 12, they will have the opportunity to get the 5 required hours of governing training. Brand new Board members still have to complete the online training, but are welcome to attend this as well. Dr. Hunter noted that he will communicate with Board members about setting up reservations once the purchase card arrives.*

Agenda Item IV

Action Items-New Business:

1. Business Office Action Items

- a. Discussion and Possible Action on Professional Services Agreement with Presbyterian Medical Services: *Dr. Hunter explained that the agreement would be for any MCHS staff member who feels they need outside behavioral health sessions. It has been mentioned in staff meetings by teachers that this service would be useful for them and would be at no cost to them. The total compensation for services provided by this Agreement shall not exceed \$20,000. Ms. Bracken asked for a motion to approve the professional service agreement under the terms as presented. Ms. Monica Yazzie motioned to approve, seconded by Ms. Clah. Roll call vote with all members in favor.*
- b. Discussion and Possible Action on the 2024-2025 August Bank Rec and Register: *Bank documents presented by Ms. Katie Rarick. Ms. Bracken asked for a motion to approve. Ms. Monica Yazzie motioned to approve, seconded by Dr. Kuchera. Roll call vote with all members in favor.*
- c. Discussion and Possible Action on BARs: *Ms. Katie Rarick reported there were no BARs to approve at this time.*
 - a. Additional BARs:

Adjourn: *With no further business, meeting was adjourned at 5:50 pm. Next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Wednesday, October 30, 2024, at 5:00 pm.*

Ms. Lisa Bracken, Council President

Recording Secretary