**Minutes of the Governing Council Meeting**

Date: January 27, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

Location: Middle College High School via videoconference

Meeting was a videoconference call with all materials available at mchsgallup.com

**Governing Council Members**:

Dr. Betty Sutliff, President – Present

Lisa Bracken, Vice President – Present

Monica Yazzie, Member – Present

Dr. Matthew Mingus, Member – Present

Olin Kieyoomia, Member – Present

Agenda Item I

1. Call to Order-***Dr.Sutliff called the regular meeting to order at 5:00 pm.***
2. Roll Call video-declared open meeting, quorum was present for the meeting.

Agenda Item II

1. Approval of the January 27, 2021 Agenda: ***Dr. Sutliff asked for a motion to accept the agenda. Dr. Mingus moved to approve, Mr. Kieyoomia seconded, roll call vote with all members in favor.***
2. Approval of the December 16, 2020 Governing Board Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented: ***Dr. Sutliff asked for a motion to approve minutes. Ms. Yazzie moved to approve, Dr. Mingus seconded, roll call vote with all members in favor.***

Agenda Item III

1. Teacher’s Report:  ***Mr. Hunt reports teachers are using four different ways to communicate with parents, which are through Newsletters, Google Classroom, Remind and Emails. When those don’t work, or the matter requires it, parent phone calls are also made. The IXL program/platform is also being used as a trial run with math and use is being expanded to language arts and social sciences.***
2. Counselor’s Report: ***Mr. Knowles reports that work is being done to get all MCHS students their textbooks and materials. Also, attempting to work with UNM Bookstore and instructors to get correct materials. Mr. Knowles is in the process of completing McKinney-Vento Homeless training which is required by law for a school representative to complete. Once initial training is complete, the training company will be given a list of Governing Council Members, Administration, and Teachers, which in turn will have to complete a short training and be made aware of McKinney-Vento, its process and referrals. Fall semester grade audits are still being done mainly for Seniors, doing schedule adjustments and making sure they are meeting graduation requirements.***
3. Principal’s Report: ***Mr. Cunanan reports MCHS students did a great job for the Fall 2020 semester as they had 30.7% or 43 out of 140 students make honor roll, which is a 3.6 GPA or better. He also reports that MCHS was certified for the 80th day report by PED for 140 students. The 120th day reporting begins February 1st, 2021 with February 10th being an important day to make sure all our students are in attendance for a complete student count. All data submission is due February 15th for 120th day reporting.***
4. GC Board Member’s Report:  ***Mr. Kieyoomia reports that the Navajo Nation Health Education and Human Services Committee and the Tribal Council is open to communicating with MCHS and also the possibility of allowing Window Rock and surrounding area students to attend MCHS and looking for a school partnership. Navajo Nation is concerned that Arizona students have not been able to attend quality options like charter schools, while regular district schools are able to enter into MoUs to allow enrollments from out of state. Mr. Kieyoomia confirmed that he has been in talks with two Navajo Nation Delegates who would like to meet with Dr. Hunter to discuss the matter further.***

***Dr. Sutliff gives thanks to Dan Hill for the continuing education/training he provided to the board members.***

1. Business Manager’s Report
   1. Financial Report-Written: ***Written report presented by Ms. Anna Cress. Dr. Mingus noted the large UNM payment that is billed once a year and the payments for the preparation of the new facility, both of which are sizeable pieces to the school’s continued operations.***
2. CEO’s Report
   1. Updates from PED and Legislative Session: ***Dr. Hunter reports that there is nothing specifically anti-charter as of yet in the Legislative session; There is a new bill that would allow enrollment preference for children of charter employees, along the lines of the same inquiry Dr. Hunter had investigated approximately three years ago, at which point the PED had been opposed. There are some general education and budget bills to watch, one that is to increase the employer’s contribution to the Education Retirement Board, one that would enable a 1% teacher raise each year for the next four years, and a bill to increase the length of the school year, which may not affect MCHS as we have already implemented that through the extended learning program and may be grandfathered in to that situation. On January 26th, the PED authorized a limited return to in-person learning that would start February 8th. A question Dr. Hunter submitted to the PED Secretary was that shouldn’t all teachers be vaccinated before students return, the PED did not return an answer to that specific question, but rather stated that the State cannot mandate teachers to get vaccinated. MCHS administration will wait and see about returning to in-person learning until teachers are vaccinated as the health and safety of staff must be prioritized. Dr. Hunter has spoken with the UNM Dean to see if teachers will have access to their classrooms because UNM is shut down and he stated that they would have access. A re-entry plan will need to be approved and possibly looking to the end of February, or more likely spring break in March, for students to return in a 5:1 ratio. We are looking more into bringing in students individually or in small groups that need additional support and tutoring once we deem it safe for teachers. There has been a smooth start to the Spring semester despite the cancellation of school due to snow, having some issues getting materials from the bookstore, and students being deactivated by UNM because they require students to submit enrollment update forms every semester. Dr. Mingus confirms that this is a UNM policy to require all secondary students to apply every semester and be readmitted. We are working on getting the students who are affected the enrollment update form to complete, especially because communication is done through their UNM email addresses, which they are locked out of if update forms are not submitted. Dr. Mingus asked about reporting structures for teacher and staff vaccinations, and whether the Board can be informed if staff have been vaccinated and the 25% COVID testing requirements have been met. Dr. Hunter stated due to HIPAA he was unsure if he could provide specific names, but reported that all staff, except for two, have received the first vaccination and/or are scheduled to receive it soon. The remaining staff are currently still on the waitlist. Dr. Mingus also inquired how the evaluation of the facility by the fire marshal and the State work because MCHS does not have control of the UNM classrooms. Dr. Hunter stated that primarily classroom size, student distancing, and air filtration is what will be looked at, in addition to other COVID-safe assurances.***
   2. Impact Aid: ***Dr. Hunter reports the first step is to approve the Indian Education Framework. Impact Aid application is ready to submit. MCHS has 50 students who live on reservation land, qualification based on physical address. Credit can also be received by students who have a parent who is employed by the federal government and only if they account for 10% of the school’s enrollment.***
   3. Facility Update: ***Dr. Hunter invited Mr. Johnty Cresto to reports on an updated facility plan/drawing. He briefly explained the building design, it has simple parking featured and is budget friendly. Classroom sizes will be approximately 675 square feet. Discussions are to include active solar for cost purposes. Mr. Cresto also explained about heat pumps, duct work, and places to use energy efficient systems throughout the building. Dr. Sutliff asked if process is moving on schedule and whether timelines are still intact. Mr. Cresto responded that with the smaller details of the building, it looks to be budget friendly. With the building being a simple and compact design, timelines should be on track. Ms. Bracken questioned if there will be flexibility with the contractors regarding the cost of lumber because of the pandemic. Mr. Cresto responded that lumber will be of minimal use and more concerned with a cost increase in steel and copper, because new facility will be of steel structure. Dr. Hunter also responded that it was made clear to contractors that cost control is of importance. He also affirmed that changing the building’s orientation is much more weather friendly, as it no longer contains a north facing entry. Likewise, an east facing entry is culturally appropriate for traditional Navajo students and families.***

Agenda Item IV

1. Action Items-New Business:

* 1. Approval of McKinney-Vento Dispute Resolution: ***Dr. Hunter explained that this is a policy for MCHS to be in compliance insuring the rights for homeless applicants and their due process rights regarding any issues. Dr. Sutliff asked for a motion to approve. Dr. Mingus moved to approve, Ms. Yazzie seconded, roll call vote with all members in favor.***
  2. Approval of Indian Education Framework Policy: ***Dr. Sutliff asked for a motion to approve. Mr. Kieyoomia moved to approve, Ms. Yazzie seconded, roll call vote with all members in favor.***
  3. Approval of Accounts Payable Vouchers: ***Dr. Sutliff asked for a motion to approve. Dr. Mingus moved to approve, Ms. Yazzie seconded, roll call vote with all members in favor.***
  4. Approval of BARs: ***Dr. Sutliff asked for a motion to approve. Ms. Yazzie moved to approve, Dr. Mingus seconded, roll call vote with all members in favor.***

Adjourn: ***With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Yazzie, seconded by Ms. Bracken, roll call vote with all members in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:07 pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting is set for February 24, 2021 at 5:00 pm.***

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Dr. Betty Sutliff, Council President

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Recording Secretary