**Minutes of the Governing Council Meeting**

Date: January 31, 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**:

Ms. Lisa Bracken, President – Present

Ms. Monica Yazzie, Vice President – Present

Dr. Carolyn Kuchera, Secretary – Present

Olin Kieyoomia, Member – Not Present

Janene Yazzie, Member – Not Present

Agenda Item I

1. Call to Order-Ms. Bracken called the meeting to order at 5:06 pm.
2. Roll Call declared open meeting; quorum was present for the meeting.

Agenda Item II

1. Approval of the January 31, 2024 Agenda: ***Ms. Katie Rarick asked to amend the agenda to place item III.7.d as item IV.1.e. Ms. Bracken asked for a motion to approve the agenda amendment. Ms. Monica Yazzie motion to approve amendment, seconded by Dr. Kuchera. Roll call vote with all members in favor.***

***Ms. Bracken asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Monica Yazzie motioned to approve, seconded by Dr. Kuchera. Roll call vote with all members in favor.***

1. Approval of the December 20, 2023 Governing Board Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented: ***Ms. Bracken asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Monica Yazzie motioned to approve, seconded by Dr. Kuchera. Roll call vote with all members in favor.***

Agenda Item III

1. Public Comment: ***No public comment***
2. Teacher’s Report:  ***No teacher reports***
3. Counselor’s Report: ***No Counselor’s report***
4. Principal’s Report: ***Ms. Gonzales reported that spring semester started on January 16th and MCHS enrolled two new students. She reported that the English Language Assessment schedule for students will begin on Friday, February 2nd and that staff have completed a two-day Professional Development training with Dr. Sharroky Hollie on culturally relevant strategies and support for students.***
5. GC Board Members’ Report**: *No GC Board Members’ reports***
6. Business Manager’s Report: ***Financial Report presented by Ms. Katie Rarick***
7. CEO’s Report
	1. Legislative/PED Updates: ***Dr. Hunter reported he has been in talks with Hozho Academy regarding bus transportation for students for the next school year. Alignment of transportation policies with Hozho may be forthcoming. He noted how schools are anticipating that the required 180 instructional day rule will be communicated by the PED once the legislative session concludes, so as to avoid further debate on the matter. He and Ms. Gonzales have been discussing this topic and how it affects MCHS, which follows UNM Gallup’s 160-day calendar. There is much to be considered with the passage of this controversial rule, including how those additional days might be funded given that the legislature’s current projected budget for staff provides a raise of only four-percent. This may be insufficient to compensate the additional days, even if fully funded by the state, which often underfunds such mandates. He also highlighted the new Senate resolution that would eliminate the Secretary of Education position and replace it with a state level school board that would employ a State Superintendent of Schools.***
	2. Equity Council Update: Student Intervention Supports: ***Dr. Hunter reported that the school administration and faculty have increased communications with families regarding their student’s attendance, grades, missing tutor time minutes or school work not being turned in. Analysis has started for the PED’s Panorama Survey that the school was required to do in December. There was strong feedback from our students showing that we exceeded the state’s averages in all efficacy categories. Nonetheless, two of the high-scoring areas showed slight dips relative to other school level measures, namely students’ sense of belonging and levels self-confidence. Each of these are already in alignment with current professional development priorities. The students will be given the survey again at the end of the semester and the school should be able to see comparisons between the surveys.***
	3. Spring Graduation Details: ***Dr. Hunter reported that graduation will be held on Friday, May 10th at Red Rock Park at 6:00 pm. Dr. Hunter has asked Council Delegate Dr. Andy Nez if he would be the keynote speaker for graduation.***
	4. CSD Academic Performance Framework Options: ***Ms. Missy Brown from the PED’s Charter School Division updated some items in the Contract Prep Workbook that were in need of clarification, and acknowledged the school’s decision to select Option 2 of the academic portion of the performance framework, which will be used to evaluate the school’s performance over the course of the upcoming contract period. The State Accountability Indicators for Option 2 will allow the school to include students’ Accuplacer results alongside the state assessment as a supplemental measure of proficiency and growth. Because the Accuplacer is a high-stakes assessment in determining students’ readiness and eligibility to take college courses, it is currently the most appropriate measure for evaluating students who attend school in an early college high school setting.***

Agenda Item IV

Action Items-New Business:

 1. Business Office Action Items

1. Discussion and Possible Action on MCHS Wellness Policy: ***Dr. Hunter reported that some of the items in the previous Wellness Policy that was recently reviewed and approved by the PED were not deemed compliant by new personnel who have since been hired by the PED. Items such as HIV education, which is already included in the school’s health curriculum, are now expressly acknowledged in the policy’s language. Ms. Bracken asked for a motion to approve. Dr. Kuchera motioned to approve, seconded by Ms. Monica Yazzie. Roll call vote with all members in favor.***
2. Discussion and Possible Action on MCHS Leave Policy and Accrual System: ***Dr. Hunter referred to the highlighted portions of the policy as included in the board packet, which were marked to emphasize specific sections of existing language, or in some instances, to include necessary clarification to existing language. While the policy requires no substantive revisions for employees working less than a full calendar year, the highlighted sections indicate where the school’s accrual system can be adjusted to keep more accurate record of the type of leave that is specified in policy. For example, all leave accruals for employees working less than a full calendar year are for sick leave only, with up to three days of sick leave per year available for use as personal leave. The system for requesting leave does not currently differentiate types of leave, and does not comply with policy. Moving forward, the system would be adjusted to enable employees to choose among the three approved types of leave: sick, personal, and unpaid. Once a particular type of leave is exhausted, it would no longer be available for selection in the system. The only substantive change to policy concerns a limit to the reimbursement of accrued annual leave for year-long employees, disallowing them to claim more than thirty days of accrued leave upon retirement. 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.***
3. Discussion and Possible Action on December WF Bank Rec, December Bento Bank Rec, December Check Register: ***Bank documents presented by Ms. Katie Rarick******.*** ***Ms. Bracken asked for a motion to approve all bank statements. Dr. Kuchera motioned to approve, seconded by Ms. Monica Yazzie. Roll call vote with all members in favor.***
4. Discussion and Possible Action on BARs:

a. ESSER III 0006-I:

b. Additional BARs: State SB9-0007-I

***Ms. Bracken asked for a motion to approve all BARs. Ms. Monica Yazzie motioned to approve, seconded by Dr. Kuchera. Roll call vote with all members in favor.***

Adjourn: ***With no further business, meeting adjourned at 6:24 pm. Next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Wednesday, February 28, 2024, at 5:00 pm.***

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Ms. Lisa Bracken, Council President

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Recording Secretary