**Minutes of the Governing Council Meeting**

Date: September 24, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

Location: Middle College High School Administrative Conference Room

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

**Governing Council Members**:

Lisa Bracken, President – Present

Monica Yazzie, Vice President – Not Present

Dr. Carolyn Kuchera, Secretary – Present

Janene Yazzie, Member – Not Present

Joshua Turney, Member – Present

Agenda Item I

1. Call to Order-Ms. Bracken called the meeting to order at 5:10 pm.
2. Roll Call declared open meeting; quorum was present for the meeting.

Agenda Item II

1. Approval of the September 24, 2025 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 27, 2025 Governing Board Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented: ***Ms. Bracken asked for a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes. Mr. Turney 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’s report.***
3. Counselor’s Report: ***Ms. Sandoval has been working with the 12th grade students in her Job Shadow class. Currently, there 15 students interning out in the community and roughly 19 more students who are still in the process of securing a location. With McKinley Academy now also having its students follow suit and complete a job shadow, some MCHS students have had to be waitlisted until positions become available. The Service Learning class is going well and students are completing their service learning hours and will begin doing their presentations. The Study Skills class, which is mainly for Freshman is going well and working on time management. She is also working on entering UNM classes into PowerSchool and completing dual credit identification sheets for the UNM registrar.***
4. Principal’s Report: ***Ms. Gonzales noted that moving into the new building felt like the first week of school again. She has been troubleshooting all the technology devices and WiFi issues. Administration has also been closely monitoring for early warning signs related to students’ attendance, grades, time management, and tutor time completion. The number of students who have been in need of early intervention is approximately 1/3 of what it was last year. She is pleased to see the students are being responsible and is able to support students who struggling. There has been good communication with students and parents. It has been nice to have all staff together in the same building and everyone is enjoying the new food services.***
5. GC Board Members’ Report**: *Ms. Bracken mentioned that the transition/move to the new school building seemed good.***

a. Summary of Finance Committee Meeting: ***Ms. Bracken explained that money will be taken from the Capital Outlay fund to cover a pedestrian crosswalk light and a school sign. This will help students to safely cross the street.***

1. Business Manager’s Report: FY25 Unaudited Financials and August Forecast: ***Presented by Ms. Rarick***.
2. CEO’s Report

***Dr. Hunter informed the Governing Board that Council Member Heather Clah has moved out of state, and is now relocated to Tucson. He indicated that her departure does not create a vacancy, as the school still retains the minimum number of five members, as required in its bylaws. MCHS governance is now covered by a five-member board.***

* 1. Equity Council: Tribal Consultation: ***Dr. Hunter met with Tribal Council Delegate, Dr. Andy Nez, who visited the school on September 23. Dr. Hunter was able to discuss the need for transportation with Dr. Nez and asked if he and the school’s general counsel would be able to get on the agenda to attend one of the Navajo Nation Council’s upcoming Education Committee meetings. Dr. Hunter asked if the Education Committee would consider drafting a resolution to the Public Education Department, indicating the need for student transportation for our school, whether running our own program or collaborating with an existing school district or charter school who has been successful in securing PED permission to offer transportation services to students and families. He explained that Dr. Nez is aware of the PED’s refusal to allow the school to operate its own program and seems amenable to the request to meet with Council about a potential resolution from the Tribe to the state.***
  2. Facility Update: ***Dr. Hunter said it has been nice to have the office space to meet and talk with parents and students. The biggest issue is the kitchen, as we are waiting for the environmental department to come out for inspection because we need a permit to operate. The cooks have been preparing meals at the Community Pantry and transporting them to the school daily. Dr. Hunter attended a meeting with the Public Works Department regarding the traffic congestion resulting from a stop sign being put up near the school to help with student crossing. Public Works proposes to remove the stop sign and replace it with a yield-to-pedestrian sign. The school is looking to purchase a pedestrian cross light. The school has also contracted with Red Rock Security to have a guard provide crosswalk duty for the students during the time of morning traffic congestion.***
  3. PCSNM Conference (December 11 for GC Hours): ***Dr. Hunter reminded the Board that they will be able to complete all their board member training hours at the conference, and will book rooms for members who would like to attend and receive lodging.***

Agenda Item IV

Action Items-New Business:

1. Business Office Action Items

1. Discussion and Possible Action on PEC Performance Framework Certification of Compliance: ***Dr. Hunter notified the Council that each year the Charter School Division puts out a compliance document that indicates the school agrees to comply with each of the items in our performance framework, which is how we are evaluated in our progress as a school. Ms. Bracken asked for a motion to approve. Dr. Kuchera motioned to approve, seconded by Mr. Turney. Roll call vote with all members in favor.***
2. Discussion and Possible Action on Tribal Education Status Report: ***Dr. Hunter explained that this report is also updated annually and is posted on the school website. Any information within the document that has been edited or updated for this year is highlighted in yellow. Dr. Kuchera recognized the high proficiency rate of MCHS students compared to the state and local district’s averages. Overall, student progress has been solid. Ms. Bracken asked for a motion to approve. Mr. Turney motioned to approve, seconded by Dr. Kuchera. Roll call vote with all members in favor.***
3. Discussion and Possible Action on the 2025-2026 Bank Rec and Check Register (August): ***Bank documents presented by Ms. Rarick. Ms. Bracken asked for a motion to approve. Dr. Kuchera motioned to approve, seconded by Mr. Turney. Roll call vote with all members in favor.***
4. Discussion and Possible Action on BARs: ***BARs presented by Ms. Rarick. Ms. Bracken asked for a motion to approve BARs as presented. Mr. Turney motioned to approve, seconded by Dr. Kuchera. Roll Call vote with all members in favor.***
   1. 0002-D-24160 BAR-REAP Fund $1.00 decrease
   2. Additional BARs: 0003-IB-Capital Outlay fund $100,000

Adjourn: ***With no further business, meeting was adjourned at 5:53 pm. Next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Wednesday, October 29, 2025, at 5:00 pm.***

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Ms. Lisa Bracken, Council President

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Recording Secretary