

MINUTES

Six Directions Indigenous School Governing Council Regular Meeting

01 March 2017

2055 NM 602, Gallup NM 87301

In attendance: Ben Soce, Madeline Leyba, Susan Estrada (via phone), Neomi Gilmore (via phone, arrived late)

Absent: Philmer Bluehouse,

Others in attendance:

- Dr. Fonda Charlie, Head Administrator
- Lane Towery, Director of Operations
- Joel Yazzie, National Indian Youth Leadership Project
- Katie Poulos, Charter School Division at the Public Education Department
- Baylor Delrosario, Charter School Division at the Public Education Department
- Brenda Chicharello, member of the public
- Samuel Crowfoot, parent

- I. Meeting opened at 5:36pm. The mission was read and everyone present introduced themselves.
- II. Roll Call
 - a. Ben – here
 - b. Madeline – here
 - c. Susan – here
 - d. Philmer – not present
 - e. Neomi – not present (arrived late via phone)
- III. Approval of agenda:
 - a. Agenda approved by acclimation
- IV. Approval of 2-01-17 Regular Meeting Minutes
 - a. Motion to approve: Susan
 - b. Yes: Madeline, Ben
 - c. No: None
 - d. Abstain: None
- V. Public Comment
 - a. Joel Yazzie present to give an update on the National Indian Youth Leadership Project.
 - i. The winter has been tough weather-wise.
 - ii. We're now starting longer days, until 5:00 pm. Today we went on a hike at El Morro. We'll be doing repelling, weather permitting.
 - iii. We've been focusing on the full-value commitment, especially speaking your truth.
 - iv. Was this your first trip?
 - v. No, we have taken many trips away from school
 - vi. How many students did you have today?

- vii. 18. We average 15-20.
 - viii. How much do your activities focus on behavior, especially regarding physical or emotional behavior and health?
 - ix. With our program, we really tap into that with our high-risk activities. We ask students to do challenge by choice. They only do what they're capable of.
 - x. Ben: we focus on the full-value commitment:
 - 1. Be here
 - 2. Be safe
 - 3. Speak your truth
 - xi. We do lots of sequencing and building students up.
 - xii. One suggestion: maybe project venture staff can set up a meeting with Dr. Charlie sometime soon.
- b. Brenda Chicharello
- i. I saw Uplift lost their charter. I'm curious, is our school compliant on the important things so that they don't take our charter away?
 - ii. Dr. Charlie: We had a state visit recently and we'll be reporting on those soon. We had some findings, things like McKinney-Vento, our safety plan. Things that we have time to fix. But on the major things like our compliance with our charter and state contract, I feel confident about. We need to be more transparent with our families. I don't know how long Uplift was open, but the state has the right to remove their charter.
 - iii. One other comment on that—that facility might be available to expand to. Also, I know what's happening at the state level with the budget being down and charter schools being closed.
 - iv. You're right, and we have a goal to be transparent with our families if anything was particularly wrong. As for the facility, we'll have to look at everything especially financially.

VI. **Reports**

- a. Financial Report from the Business Manager, Donna Overson
 - i. Donna Overson is no longer here.
 - ii. Madeline Leyba, who chairs the finance committee spoke instead
 - 1. She shared with us our budget to actuals report and shared where we'll need to
- b. Report from Lane, Director of Operations
 - i. Affidavit of submission for the Notice of Annual Meeting Resolutions has been received for the notice running in the newspaper as well as in local radio.
 - ii. PED Visit
 - 1. The PED visit was this month. Dr. Charlie will talk more specifics, but I wanted to share that they said

they would respond formally within 45 days and then we would have 30 days to reply. We'll share the full report with you when we know it.

iii. Internet

1. We changed our account number, router, and circuit ID with CenturyLink to an account that is reimbursable, which is one of our final steps in the E-Rate process. So our internet liabilities should decrease as we get started in the program.
2. We will also see some E-Rate funding for next year to improve our network hardware.

iv. Kitchen & Facilities

1. We're working on figuring out our growth plan for next year and will be engaging WNMU and our landlord in that conversation.
2. We have an interest in one more classroom for next year, maybe two.
3. We also have an interest in getting access to a better kitchen. We're bringing in someone next week to look at our current half kitchen and tell us what it would take to get it up to code for a school kitchen. That way we can start to discuss with our landlord what may or may not be feasible.
4. We're also going to re-engage with SFE, the company that GMCS uses. In the past, GMCS has not allowed them to use a GMCS kitchen to prepare lunch for our students, but with the new school board and new superintendent, it's possible that we can build a different relationship. We need to reach out to them for discussions.

v. NWEA and Tripod

1. We have just finished giving NWEA winter assessments and the Tripod Survey, both of which are part of our performance framework with the Public Education Commission.
2. The NWEA shows that 44% of students have met their end of year goal in Math already, and 55% of students have met their end of year goal in reading already. This is according to their projected RIT growth. We have not determined how many students are listed as average or high average for their grade level yet. As soon as this analysis is complete, we'll share it with you.
3. For Tripod, which is a survey assessing students' perceptions of instruction and school culture, we got interesting results. Our students have incredibly high

net positives on answers relating to their relationships with adults. But, they had net negatives related to their relationships with peers, especially how much they trust their peers and how much their peers support them to learn.

4. Ben suggests meeting with NIYLP staff to discuss the peer to peer relationships and see how NIYLP can help with that.

c. Report from Dr. Charlie, Head Administrator

i. Visit from the state PED

1. SPED: making sure we're logging and documenting service hours. We also need to make sure we're providing proper services for gifted students
2. ELL: documenting that we're properly giving services and accommodations.
3. McKinney-Vento Law for homeless children: I have had connections with the right person at the state. We have sent the applications home with kids, mailed them home, and handed them out at student-led conferences. We have put up the posters in our school. McKinney-Vento can really help students with things like toiletries or glasses. It also gives families rights like demanding transportation. We need to create a complaint policy that meets the regulations.
4. Health and Wellness: does the teacher need to have a PE license? That is a question we need to answer.
5. Safety Plan: We have until March 30 to submit that. We're putting together our parent committee to be in compliance with that.

ii. Certification

1. I am New Mexico certified now as both a principal and Diné Studies teacher. So that compliance concern should go away.

iii. Student-led conferences

1. We did those last week and they went well. Teachers reflect how much they like them based on the students doing all the leading and talking.

iv. SAT

1. We had our first Student Assistant Team (SAT) meeting recently. This went well and we are working on our process.
2. Tina recently got certified to assess for giftedness so that we can do that.

v. Tripod Survey

1. This survey gave us such good data about our students' feelings about our instruction and

curriculum. It really revealed how much our students are not comfortable sharing in front of each other in class. So we're really focused on community building. Some ideas include doing a group mural at the school. Or visiting some retirement homes to meet with elders.

vi. Upcoming

1. Lane and I are going to sit down and make a budget plan for the rest of the year and for next year, especially taking into account the decrease in SEG funds that is predicted next year.
2. We are also working on fixing contracts, to clean them up for next year.

vii. Comment from Brenda

1. I have a hard time getting ACCESS data from other schools. How are you all reporting your data to kids or family?
2. I know other families who have a really hard time applying for McKinney-Vento at other schools, so it's something to think about.
3. I think going to elder care centers is a great idea.

viii. Dr. Charlie:

1. If the person who runs the McKinney-Vento process is negligent, there is always a complaint process that they can follow through on.
2. Thank you for sharing and for the suggestions you give us.

VII. Action Items

- a. Potential action regarding a Responsible use of Technology Policy
 - i. Can we add a clause about student use of personal devices, that we allow them for the purpose of building student responsibility in paragraph two of the policy.
 - ii. How are kids doing with phones at school right now?
 - iii. It's not a huge problem. We're pretty strict and we combine that strictness of using the devices with the privilege of using the devices.
 - iv. A concern about parents signing the contract was brought up. The contract in the addendum needs to change to reflect that.
 - v. Motion to table in order to give Neomi a chance to provide input:
 1. Yes: Susan, Ben,
 2. No: none
 3. Abstain: none
- b. Potential action regarding a McKinney Vento Complaint Policy

- i. We thought we would have a sample from the state by now, but we don't have one from them yet.
 - ii. This policy is specific to McKinney Vento. We have a complaint policy for the school, but this law requires a specific complaint policy.
 - iii. Do we need this because we're
 - iv. Motion to table: Ben
 - 1. Yes: Madeline, Susan
 - 2. No: None
 - 3. Abstain: Neomi
- c. Action regarding a Budget Adjustment Request (BAR) #8 referring to increase in revenue of \$50,417 from a United States Department of Education "Native Youth Community Project" (NYCP) grant received from the NACA-Inspired Schools Network (NISN).
- i. Are these funds restricted or unrestricted?
 - ii. I don't believe that it is restricted, no. The ways that we can spend it are stipulated in our
 - iii. I want to know how this will be coded in our budget. What fund or code will be applied to it?
 - iv. Motion to approve: Susan
 - 1. Yes: Madeline, Ben
 - 2. No: none
 - 3. Abstain: none

Discussion Items

- VIII. Discussion items
- a. Discussion regarding the draft Governing Council Code of Ethics
 - i. People think the draft looks good
 - ii. We should make it an action item for the next meeting.
 - b. Discussion regarding Governing Council training hours and proposed changes to the rules governing annual training requirements.
 - i. Ben is going to do the online trainings with the New Mexico coalition
 - ii. The Charter School Division will be doing a training on the 14th of March in Gallup from 12:00 to 5:00. It will be an introductory training.
 - iii. Madeline intends to attend that training.
 - iv. Katie: the PED is proposing new rules to go into effect July 1 for the next training year. They would require a board member to receive seven hours of training from the PED before voting on any items. They would make the PED the accreditor and make the trainings cheaper. They would require more training hours. They also require more public announcement of training hours. They would require 10 hours per year of training.

Motion to close the meeting: Madeline
Yes: Susan, Ben
No: None
Abstain: None

Approved by the Six Directions Indigenous School Governance Council this 5th day of April 2017.



Keeper of Records: _____
Susan Estrada

Date: 04-05-2017