

Governing Council Members

Dale Buser, President-present

Lisa Bracken, Vice President-present

Laverne Chischilly, Secretary/Treasurer-present

Mary Lou Mraz, Member-present

Dr. Betty Sutliff, Member-present

Agenda Item I

1. Mr. Buser called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm, declaring it an open meeting and that a quorum was present for the meeting. Approval of the May 16, 2017 agenda. Mr. Buser asked for changes to the agenda, with there being no changes to the agenda, Mr. Buser asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Chischilly made the motion, Ms. Mraz seconded the motion to accept the agenda, and all members were in favor.
2. Approval of the April 18, 2017 Governing Council Minutes, as presented. Mr. Buser asked for a motion to approve the April 18, 2007 Minutes as presented. Dr. Sutliff made the motion and Ms. Chischilly seconded the motion to approve the minutes as presented and all members were in favor.

Agenda Item II

1. Consent Agenda
 - a. Accounts Payable Vouchers, Ms. Brown indicated that there were a few vouchers she felt should be brought to the attention of the Council. Voucher #1096 to the Albuquerque Publishing Company, the agency who advertised the (RFP) Legal Services, for \$66.10. On that same Voucher #1096 there was a payment to the UNM-Gallup Bookstore, for \$15,673.47, for textbooks and to UNM-Gallup Business Operations, for \$82,657.57, for tuition, for this past spring semester. Voucher #1103 a payment to Convergeone Incorporated for \$729.49. The Convergeone Company works on our network. A couple of months ago we had a situation when our network was not working, we telephoned Convergeone for support. Mr. Lupe Silva is the Convergeone Engineer, he works on our system, and he also works full time for the Gallup Schools where he maintains an office there. Voucher #1106 to the GMCS, for \$12,877.52, our schools portion of the audit. Dr. Sutliff questioned whether the amount was for 2% of our Budget? Mr. Buser said that because we are a small school we probably were charged the least amount. Ms. Brown did say that she was not sure of what the entire bill consisted of, but in regards to the vouchers, Ms. Brown said that was all she had to report.
 - b. Ms. Brown reported that during the State Legislative Session they mandated that our school revert \$18,571.05 minus 2% Administrative fee, back to the state in order to help alleviate the state's budget crisis. Dr. Sutliff asked, what time period would the decrease be effective, the school year of 2017-2018. Ms. Brown specified that it was for the current year of 2016-2017. Dr. Sutliff asked if the decrease in the budget would it come back and Ms. Brown said it probably would not come back. Mr. Buser asked for a motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Ms. Mraz moved and seconded by Ms. Bracken to approve the Consent Agenda, and all were in favor.
2. Action Items
 - a. Adoption of Article 5.01 – Admissions Requirements (Lottery Process.) Dr. Hunter had emailed the, “Admission Requirements” to all Council Members to review. Dr. Hunter mentioned that he was hopeful once approved we could begin its implementation by June 2017. Dr. Hunter asked the members if they had an opportunity to read the Admission Requirements, and if anyone had any questions. Dr. Sutliff wanted an explanation of the process just for her understanding. After reading through the requirements, Dr. Sutliff read a piece from the requirements, “the core credits must meet the New Mexico State Public Education Departments Standards.”

Dr. Sutliff wanted to know if the standards were available for the parents to utilize. Dr. Sutliff guessed that the standards are located on the NMPED website. Dr. Hunter informed the members that the standards are broken down in to what is considered for high school graduation credit, and by the Cohort year. Dr. Sutliff asked for an explanation as to why would parent(s) need picture ID's, for the application process. Dr. Hunter replied for security reasons in particular, also with the picture ID it will show residency. If there is an issue regarding custodianship, and that could be indicated in PowerSchool. Dr. Hunter asked Ms. Sheridan if she had anything to add regarding the application process. Ms. Sheridan gave an example, "what if a student was being checked out and if Ms. Sheridan was absent for that day, then a member of our staff would have to look in the student file to view the parent(s) and for those persons who would be allowed to check the student out." Dr. Sutliff asked if this was the time that they would talk about the enrollment breakdown for next year. Dr. Hunter informed the members that we know that we are capped at 100 students because we did not receive the increase. The existing policies are almost nil and the biggest change from the old policy is that we will no longer maintain the wait list indefinitely. The wait list will be for that academic year, only. The student would reapply for one school year at a time. If the applicant is not selected, they would apply the next year, and that is the main idea for this piece, is that we will no longer maintain a wait list year after year. Dr. Sutliff made a comment, what if an applicant does not get selected, in their sophomore year and if they apply in their junior year, and if they do not get selected, and if they apply in their senior year, there is still a possibility that they will not get selected from the lottery. According to Dr. Hunter, most Middle College applicants apply for one year at a time, and that was how the process was supposed to work. Dr. Hunter and Mr. Knowles have been working on the fall 2017 schedules, and have completed about six seniors but we should only have about two seniors. Dr. Sutliff asked if the articles will be published where the community could view them. Dr. Hunter did say that the Policy Manual will be on our website. Dr. Sutliff indicated that she did not see a date as to when the application must be turned in, must all interested parties apply by May 31st or June 1st etc. Dr. Hunter informed all that the student must have all of the documents turned and completed by the first week in June, or the 2nd Monday in June. Dr. Sutliff wanted to know if the date mentioned above, would that be enough time for our staff to review the applications. Dr. Hunter said that he and Nellie would review the documents at the time the student returns the application. Ms. Brown interjected if the actual issue was the ability to prove that a student qualifies. Dr. Sutliff said that the biggest issue was the receiving of the transcripts because the last day of school for all Gallup McKinley County Schools is the day after Memorial Day, and that is how they have done it for the last three years. If we choose the Friday week then that would be okay. Ms. Brown's question was what if a student's application is contingent upon the student being able to obtain their transcripts from the school they are leaving, and being turned in by the date specified. Ms. Brown used an example of a sophomore who wanted to attend our school and that person in theory, was qualified. Ms. Mraz asked if we could use language instead of dates, e.g., the deadline to turn in your application would be the date that it lists on the letter that the student has received. Ms. Chischilly asked if the applications could be obtained on-line. Dr. Hunter did say that currently the applications are given out in person. Dr. Hunter did say that he and Mr. Cunanan will be working to put the application on-line. Mr. Buser asked for a motion to accept the Adoption of Article 5.01. Admission Requirements, Ms. Chischilly made the motion, seconded by Ms. Mraz to Adopt Article 5.01, Admissions Requirements and all were in favor.

- b. Approval of the 2017-2018 Budget, Ms. Brown handed out copies of the schools 2017-2018 budget. Ms. Brown very precisely reviewed the budget for the school year 2017-2018. Mr. Buser thanked Ms. Brown for presenting such an outstanding budget. Mr. Buser asked for a motion to accept the budget. Ms. Mraz moved and seconded by Ms. Chischilly, to approve the 2017-2018 MCHS's budget, and all were in favor.

Agenda Item III

1. Student Representative Report; Brendyn Bracken talked about the most recent activities that students participated in, this semester. Mr. Bracken talked about how the activities that students participated in were very successful and they were; the Hoe-Down Banquet and the Color-Run. This past Thursday we had a senior banquet and he said the seniors felt appreciated, because of the work that went into putting on the banquet. The students put a lot of work into the yearbook, and it turned out great. Mr. Bracken did say that this past semester was a heavy semester, for all students.
2. Parent's Report, Ms. Bracken expressed concern regarding the ability for some students to get into the MCHS. Ms. Bracken also said that she was concerned about why GMCS shot down the request to increase our enrollment. Ms. Bracken did say that the parents and the teachers would like to know what they could do to help with the enrollment issues. Dr. Hunter talked briefly about the summary of the information presented to the GMCS Board. Ms. Bracken suggested that maybe the students could be present for next month's Board Meeting.
3. Counselor's Report, Mr. Knowles attended the UNM-G/MCHS graduation on May 13, 2017; Mr. Knowles reported the graduation went really well. Thirty-five students graduated, and between seven or eight students earned Associate Degrees at the same time. Mr. Knowles expressed concern, because there was a lag in time between graduation and when classes ended, and for the UNM-G instructors to have grades turned in. We applied for and we have received four waivers from the Public Education Department, so that our students could receive a regular diploma. There was one exception and that student did not have enough credits to graduate.
Teacher's Reports; all teachers were absent today.
4. Business Managers Report,
 - a. Financial Report, Ms. Brown reported that our cash balance at the end of this month was a bit lower from what we started out with and the main reason for that was because of the large payment we made to UNM for, textbooks and tuition, for the month of April. Year to date, we still have a healthy cash balance and there was a couple of reasons; because we have become conservative with our spending and because our staffing went down just a bit. Ms. Brown submitted a request for assistance for the Capital Outlay-Lease Assistance Funds, in the amount of \$23,285.97. We received the Lease Assistance Funds in May 2017, and it will be reflected in the June 2017 report.
5. Chief Executive Officer's Report
 - a. Response to the Charter School Divisions Proposed changes to Governing Council; the Charter School Division is mulling over the possibility of increasing the CPE hours for the Governing Council members. The training would be sanctioned through the Charter School Division of the State of New Mexico. There has always been a battle going on between the Coalition and the Charter School Division. What the CSD has done is they have proposed some changes and they are all about accountability. By the end of the month they are going to have a hearing on the proposed changes. And Dr. Hunter would like to gather up the thoughts of the Governing Council Members regarding the increase in the CPE'S, and he will draft a letter in response to the proposed changes, we will then mail a letter to the State Legislature. Dr. Sutliff asked what do they want to increase the hours to, Dr. Hunter said they want to increase the current hours to 10 hours. By increasing the hours it will create travel hardships and it will also create budgeting hardships. Dr. Hunter mentioned that the part where he finds this most troubling is that we know that the Coalition does some of the best training. And he feels the State may be trying to minimize the Coalition. By the end of this month there will be a hearing on scheduling a change of hours. Dr. Hunter asked the members if they have any questions regarding the aforementioned. Dr. Sutliff wanted to know why the State wants to increase training hours of the Governing Councils. Dr. Sutliff made a remark, do they think we are deficient, or incompetent. Dr. Hunter did inform all that the state is all about accountability. Dr. Hunter added that a lot of Charter Schools do not have the staff that we have. We have a Business Manager, and other pieces that they do not have. Dr. Hunter believes we will be okay because we are a high performing school, and we also have a very sound Fiscal Management Department.

Mr. Buser believes the state wants to select the training that the Council receives instead of what the Council chooses to take. They are taking “choice” out of the training process. Dr. Sutliff said that she believes that they want to manage all the Charter Schools, turn it in to an HMO that they want to force us to follow their will. The non-chartered school boards are not required to make this change; it only applies to Charter Schools.

- b. Good news the MCHS is ranked 13th best high school in the state of New Mexico. We are ranked 10th in STEM. And we are ranked 8th in teacher quality. Mr. Buser asked if the aforementioned will it be advertised in the Independent. Dr. Hunter said that Mr. Knowles has been in contact with someone he knows at the newspaper.
- c. Reporting Timelines and Access to UNM Grades; we are fielding parent complaints about grades from college instructors. It is very difficult for parents to understand that there is a separation of capabilities of what information MCHS staff can get from UNM instructors and the information that students can get from the college instructors. The MCHS staff does not have authority over the UNM-Gallup professors. Dr. Sutliff made the comment that what if we change the graduation date and Mr. Buser said the graduation date would have to be changed for UNM also. Ms. Mraz added that Dr. Dyer makes a very specific statement right before graduation, he states; “contingent upon the student passing all of his or her college classes, that will determine if a student graduates or not.” Ms. Mraz did say that parents should urge their students to complete a proxy statement to give our staff the ability to talk to the instructors. Ms. Bracken made a statement that there is a complete breakdown of accountability among the student, the parent and the professor. Dr. Hunter wanted to make the members aware of our staff not being able to talk to the professors, even though the students are in high school.
- d. Additions to the MCHS Master Schedule; there will be Driver’s Education in the fall. We will also be adding lower level high school English classes, for some students who are not passing higher college level English courses. We are giving our students every opportunity to be successful added Dr. Hunter. Dr. Sutliff asked what does the Master Schedule mean. Dr. Hunter informed the members, that it is a schedule of all of our teachers and what they are teaching.

Agenda Item IV

1. Executive Session

- a. None

Ajourn:

Mr. Buser asked for a motion to Adjourn, Ms. Bracken made the motion and seconded by Ms. Mraz to adjourn the meeting at 5:46 pm.

Dale Buser, Council President

Attest:

Nellie Sheridan, Recording Secretary

Date Approved _____