

Minutes  
January 9, 2018 - 4:00 pm.  
Middle College High School, Portable #2  
705 Gurley Avenue, Gallup, New Mexico 87301

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Middle College High School-Governing Council Members

Lisa Bracken, President - present  
Dr. Betty Sutliff, Vice President-present  
Mary Lou Mraz, Secretary/Treasurer – present  
Dr. Matthew Mingus, Member-present  
Ms. Valerie Long, Member-present

Agenda Item I

1. Approval of the January 9, 2018 agenda; Ms. Bracken called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm, declaring it an open meeting and that a quorum was present for the meeting. Ms. Bracken asked for a motion to approve the Agenda. Dr. Mingus moved and Dr. Sutliff seconded the motion to approve the agenda and all were in favor.
2. Approval of the Governing Council Minutes, December 12, 2017 as presented. Ms. Bracken asked for a motion to approve the Minutes as presented. Dr. Mingus moved and Dr. Sutliff seconded the motion to approve the minutes as presented, and all were in favor.

Agenda Item II

1. Consent Agenda

- a. Accounts Payable Vouchers, Ms. Brown reported that the vouchers were pretty run of the mill, regular payments that we've had through the month. Ms. Brown asked for questions regarding the Accounts Payable Vouchers. Dr. Sutliff asked about Voucher #1054. The Voucher #1054 was for training Ms. Brown took in Arizona. Dr. Mingus asked how the purchase orders were organized, for instance, if multiple persons attended the same conference if they were all put on the same purchase order. Ms. Brown acknowledged that the vouchers were grouped together, and if there were multiple persons who attended the same conference, they were put on the same purchase order. No other questions were asked. Ms. Bracken asked for a motion to approve the Accounts Payable Vouchers as presented. Dr. Mingus moved and second by Dr. Sutliff to approve the Accounts Payable Vouchers as presented and all were in favor.
- b. Ratification of a purchase order for legal services. Ms. Brown requested permission to ratify the purchase order for work of a time sensitive nature that had already begun. Dr. Hunter noted that he had talked to the Governing Council President to let her know what the legal services were for (an appeal to be filed with the Secretary of Education regarding the GMCS decision to deny the school's request for an enrollment increase) before beginning work on the purchase order. Dr. Mingus asked about the appeal process, and he also asked a question regarding the likelihood of getting the decision overturned by the Secretary of Education. According to Dr. Hunter, the contract with GMCS states if both parties do not agree on something then we could appeal their decision through the Secretary of Education. Dr. Hunter indicated it is a solidly written appeal. The Secretary of Education will get a copy of the appeal tomorrow, and the Secretary will have 45 days in which to make a decision. Dr. Hunter expressed what the attorney had indicated about the decision made by the GMCS School Board, that their denial of our request was contrary to law. The reasons they gave for denial of the increase was that we do not provide transportation, they were questioning things that were in the budget and they questioned food services. And some of them even said that they were opening up their own competing school here on campus. The attorney quoted what it said in the Charter School Act and how GMCS is forbidden in the contract we have with them to interfere



with the day to day operations of our school and to even talk about the budgetary pieces etc. Our school is to remain autonomous from GMCS. It appears as if GMCS has over stepped their authority. If GMCS had objections or concerns regarding the day-to-day operations of the school, they should have brought the objections up through the contract-negotiating phase. Dr. Mingus asked if we have to go to Santa Fe for meetings whether the cost would be covered in the purchase order. Dr. Hunter indicated that the purchase order amount is pretty inflated, and we should have more than enough to cover the appeal process and for travel too. Ms. Bracken asked for a motion to ratify the purchase order for legal services. Dr. Mingus moved and Dr. Sutliff seconded the motion to ratify the purchase order for legal services.

c. Budget Transfer – 11000 (Operational.)

Ms. Brown stated the reason why we are requesting a budget transfer was because we need to make sure that the above mentioned function covers all purchase orders. We need to make sure it does not go into the red. We will transfer monies to the above mentioned function and it's almost \$285,000 in the account we want to transfer from. Ms. Bracken asked for a motion to approve the budget transfer. Dr. Sutliff moved and seconded by Dr. Mingus to approve the budget transfer, and all were in favor.

2. Acton Items

a. Old Business-

- i. Approval of Board Policy regarding Employee Tuition Reimbursement. Dr. Hunter referred to the highlighted text and there are some revised pieces in there. Dr. Sutliff did say the language is better defined and it protects MCHS much better than the former language. Ms. Bracken was also pleased with the language change and she feels it covers concerns that the Council had, from the previous meeting. Ms. Bracken asked for a motion to approve the Board Policy regarding Employee Tuition Reimbursement. Ms. Bracken asked for a motion to approve the Board Policy regarding Employee Tuition Reimbursement. Dr. Sutliff moved and Dr. Mingus seconded the motion to accept the approval of the Board Policy with the revised language regarding Tuition Reimbursement, and all were in favor.

b. New Business

- i. None

3. Discussion Items

None

Agenda Item III

1. Student Representative Report, Mr. Bracken reported that we had three students to graduate in December 2017. We will have seven new students to attend our school in the spring 2018 semester. Mr. Brendyn Bracken earned his EMS certificate and it was issued to him on December 16, 2017. All students had a very good break. Student Orientation for our school will be this week.
2. Parent's Report, Ms. Long reported that her daughter, Ms. Tielely Tsosie had been interviewed by the Gallup Independent, that article has been published and the Navajo Times and the Times interview should be out on Thursday, January 11, 2018. According to Dr. Hunter, Ms. Tsosie represented the school well and she extended information to the Navajo Times regarding our school as well. Ms. Tielely has expressed a desire to continue being an advocate for MCHS. Since the interviews through the local newspaper and the Navajo Times we have received 54 requests for applications on the school's website. Ms. Long asked if we have a short video regarding the school. According to Dr. Hunter we do not have a video but it could be easily added to our informational materials.
3. Governing Council Member's reports; Dr. Mingus reported that he's scheduled to teach from 3:30 until 4:45 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Dr. Hunter said that we will make the time change an action item for the February meeting. Ms. Mraz reported that she received her certificate, for completion of her training for the entire year, as a Council Member.



4. Counselor's & Teacher's Reports, Mr. Knowles reported that he was blown away with the good reports that he's received from the community regarding our students participating in the Service Learning Class and their contributions to the community. He had heard some amazing things regarding our students. What a great testimonial. The community is asking our school to send more students to participate in various community activities. The PSAT test results will be distributed in seminar this semester.
  - Mr. Schali said that he does not have a lot to report this day. He did say that he was very excited about the spring semester coming up. He will be teaching a Geometry course this spring semester. The Gifted students will be involved in an Enrichment Class, regarding STEM based projects.
  - Mr. Hunt spending this week assimilating into the school. He was excited about being here and that he and Ms. Shack are going to collaborate on some projects for the students.
5. Business Managers Report
  - a. Financial Reports have been provided. The finances have gone down some because we took a hit because of tuition, textbooks, leased classrooms and leased land through UNM that were paid in December 2017.
6. CEO's Report
  - a. Legislative Session is coming up and it will be to our benefit to be present. On the 26<sup>th</sup> day January 2018 he will be attending the Legislative Session for the Greater Gallup Economic Development Roundtable, State Representative Patricia "Patty" Lundstrom's organization. Dr. Hunter will also be traveling to Santa Fe on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of February 2018 to attend the McKinley County Day. Dr. Hunter reported that he has been spending much time disputing inaccurate information being disseminated about the Middle College High School. We need to make sure the facts get out there. From a telephone conversation with our local Senator to discuss Charter School Funding, the Senator was under the impression, based on what had been reported by UNM-Albuquerque, that the MCHS does not pay for tuition, for textbooks, for leased classrooms and for leased land. Incorrect perceptions are out there regarding our budget. Mr. Cunanan will be in charge when Dr. Hunter is on travel. Dr. Hunter will email information about McKinley County Day to the Governing Council.
  - b. MCHS Enrollment Trends, Dr. Hunter reported that GMCS said that we underserve Native Americans. We have made great strides to increase Native American enrollment, i.e., we have doubled the Native American population within the last two and a half years. By the spring 2018 we will have 40% Native American Student Population. There is an accusation that no MCHS students are members of a GMCS board member's represented chapters. Over the break, Dr. Hunter telephoned our families to find out about their Chapter affiliations. It turns out that many of our students are members of the Chapters represented by GMCS Board Members.

Dr. Sutliff added the following information regarding the lottery process. We have to have open enrollment, and we don't have control over the application process. And if our school receives an increase in enrollment that would help us to reach equity. We cannot and we do not give preference to applicants.

- c. Statewide Early/Middle College Needs: Some early colleges have run into issues with how attendance is kept. Also, one thousand and eighty hours of instructional seat time are the standard for public high schools. The way Middle College conducts tutor time plays a part in our calculation. It is important that we continue to monitor tutor time and to designate where students can get their tutor time completed. Dr. Hunter thinks we can defend our attendance and seat time processes through strict adherence to our present structures.

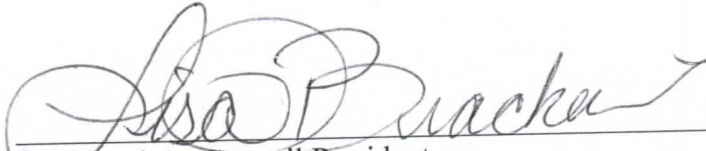
Agenda Item IV

1. Executive Session

a. None

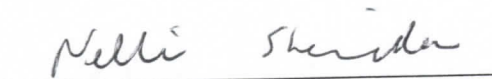
Adjourn

There being no other business, Ms. Bracken asked for a motion to adjourn. Dr. Mingus moved to adjourn and seconded by Ms. Mraz to adjourn the meeting at 5:15 pm. The next meeting will be on the 13<sup>th</sup> of February 2018.

  
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Lisa Bracken, Council President

2/13/18

Attest:

  
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Nellie Sheridan, Recording Secretary

02/13/2018

Date Approved 02/13/2018