**SDIS – GC Meeting**

**February 17th, 2016**

**5:30pm, NIYLP, 305 Sunde St Gallup**

**Mission**

The Six Directions Indigenous School, through a commitment to culturally relevant indigenous education and interdisciplinary project-based learning, will develop critically conscious students who are engaged in their communities, demonstrate holistic well-being, and have a personal plan for succeeding in post-secondary opportunities.

Governing Council members in attendance:

Madeline Leyba, Ben Soce, and Philmer Bluehouse

1. Intros and Welcome
2. Approval of Minutes from previous two meeting

**Motion**: approve Jan. 20, 2016 minutes (Leyba)

Votes for: Soce, Estrada, Bluehouse, Leyba

Votes against: none

**Motion approved**

**Motion**: approve Feb. 3, 2016 minutes (Estrada)

Votes for: Soce, Estrada, Leyba, Bluehouse

Votes against: none

**Motion approved**

1. Public Comment
2. Action Items
   1. Choose GC members to serve on Indigenous Education Committee

**Motion:** move this item to the next agenda

Votes for: Soce, Estrada, Bluehouse, Leyba

Votes against: none

**Motion approved**

* 1. School calendar approval

**Discussion:**

Calendar will change – just good to have a grounding doc

We want to be aligned to GMCS

**Motion:** approve the tentative calendar with a changed start

date of Aug. 11, list teacher onboarding dates (Estrada)

Votes for: Soce, Estrada, Bluehouse, Leyba

Votes against: none

**Motion approved**

* 1. Salary Schedule approval

**Discussion:**

How will years of experience work?

Generally, it’s based on the years you’ve been doing a particular job with a particular certificate

How do higher folks from strong background?

Answer lies in our hiring process

How will retirement work?

It will stay the same because we’re a public school

More autonomy in the classroom, more structured trainings

We also need to establish a system of teacher autonomy

NM sets the minimums at every level – ours will be hirer

TSOL endorsement should be included as well

$1800 to start the board process

$2000 is too low – perhaps we should offer to split the cost

We can offer to split the cost of the board certifying the first

time they attempt

Philmer Bluehouse has to leave the meeting (6:50 p.m.)

Increase dual SPED and TSOL certification incentives

**Motion:** approve salary schedule (Estrada)

Votes for: Soce, Estrada, Leyba

Votes against: none

**Motion approved**

* 1. Enrollment Policy updates approval

**Discussion:**

Do we have a CIB for tribal clothing?

We can include that

Lane recommends that we only accept applicants from NM

If they do not reside in NM, we cannot receive funding for them

If we do not have to invest money into construction, we can

invest into people

Our posted positions are head admin and teacher

Can we be really consistent with the “chair” and “President” language (enrollment policy has old language)

**Motion:** approve adjusted enrollment policy (Soce)

Votes for: Soce, Estrada, Leyba

Votes against: none

**Motion approved**

1. Discussion Items
   1. Process for hiring our Head Administrator

**Discussion**:

Applicants must 1st submit online an questionnaire and resume

Then Lane will have an informal conversation (with unknow

folks)

If we want to push them through, then we’d go through the

application/exercise check list we reviewed during a previous

meeting

Lastly, we would have to make a final decision

For the activities portion of the interview, do we want that to:

1. Have the whole GC interview the candidate?

Or 2. Have a sub committee make a recommendation 1st, then

have recommended folks interview with the GC

Madeline prefers the second option

Ben also prefers the second option interested in being a part of

the sub committee

Lane and Cotillion will be named as chairs of the sub

committee

We can have two (but not three) GC members on the

committee

The only person the board approves is the Head Admin

* 1. NIYLP and SDIS partnership

**Discussion:**

How do we pay for the partnership?

We’ve talked about doing a beginning of the year and end of

year trip

We also have an elective spot open that NIYLP could take over

So, in other words, trips and wellness/project venture work

We are also pursuing certain grants

Perhaps we shouldn’t have a beginning of the year trip for our

first year

SDIS wouldn’t need to coordinate – NIYLP would take it over

Would be nice to have a kick-off event

What would the timeline of that look like?

What about students who are enrolling later on in the process?

Lots of students enroll on the first day of school

Might be a strong option for our 7th grade (2nd year) class

Perhaps we do a trip a month into the school year

We could also advocate for our school via an NIYLP summer

camps

We may want to do a fall break trip

If we meet our enrollment target right at the beginning of the

year, then we could consider doing a trip right of the bat

Four day break after every trimester, would create an

awesome opportunity for a team building event

NIYLP is such a strength and asset in our community

We would pay for NIYLP through NACA

For our next meeting, we should change the location to the TFA

office

* 1. Planning for GC capacity building – what are the priorities each GC member has for learning in order to build their own confidence as a GC member.

**Discussion**:

Lane is curious what we’re feeling – what type of trainings we’re interested in

What types of trainings would make you feel more confident

and capable in your roles?

Please email our team with your thoughts (Lane will forward if

you accidently email just him)

* 1. Team Norms and Code of Ethics – review and critique the progress made from last time.

**Discussion:**

Point N: promotion of democracy doesn’t represent everyone’s

interests – may not be easily encapsulated in traditional life

* 1. SDIS Summit/Conference/ etc.

Table for future meeting

1. Lane Report
   1. Report on benchmarks and plan for spring time

Lane will send us a link to a large planning doc he’s worked on

* 1. Hiring Plan
  2. Family Engagement and Enrollment Plan

We are going to need a large amount of time and effort into this

Part

This is our most critical work before June

We will want to do continued involvement with interested

families

We want to keep them engaged

Lane will send emails about this

We need to focused on legal policies/financials, growing our

GC group, and student enrollment

* 1. WNMU

We are now working out the specifics

We are not entirely done yet (we are moving along in positive

ways)

Additional thoughts:

LA school is incredible – Lane continues to meet with them

Governer of Ski City pueblo shared points of wisdom

Does our mission get us excited – do we connect to it? Is it authentic

to our approach?

Education is about 1) independence of thought and 2) nation building

Does the mission statement clearly connect to what we’re about?

How does our handout reflect indigeneity?

1. Committee Reports
   1. Facilities and Operations
   2. Wellness

Ben has things in mind that he would like to present to the

curriculum committee

Ben doesn’t want to make it Navajo specific

We could also make it Navajo specific as a way to begin

We could also create a template that other cultures can plug

their specifics into it

The school in LA is based on Latino indigeneity – this is okay

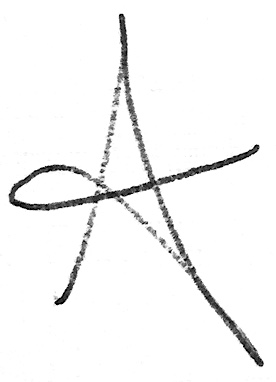
We can borrow from them

The aforementioned school also teaches the

* 1. Curriculum
  2. Family Engagement
  3. Staff Hiring

1. GC Member Reports

*Approved by the Six Directions Indigenous School Governance Council this 16th day of March 2016.*

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*Keeper of Records:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Susan Estrada*

*Date: 03-16-2016*