



New Mexico Public Education Commission (PEC)

Governing Body Member Removal Notification Instructions

Purpose: To notify the Public Education Commission (PEC) of a change (resignation, removal, or deceased) of the school's Governing Body.

Submission Deadline: Changes to the Governing Body membership do not require prior approval of the PEC; however, notice must be received within 30 calendar days of the change. Vacancies must be filled within 45 days; one 30-day extension may be requested.

Notifications completed 14 days prior to the next PEC meeting will be placed on the next agenda. Notifications of this type are typically placed on the consent agenda; however, any notification may be removed from the consent agenda and moved to the regular agenda for full discussion and possible action by the PEC.

Meeting minutes of the governing board of the school and the PEC will serve as an amendment to, or compliance with, the charter contract regarding this membership change. The documentation will be added to the board of finance documentation on file with CSD.

The school must provide:

- Fully completed form
- Resignation Letter or board meeting minutes removing the previous member

Contact charter.schools@ped.nm.gov with questions about completing or submitting documents.

Governing Body Member Removal Notification Form

Submit this form and all supporting documents to charter.schools@ped.nm.gov

The Charter Contract was entered into by and between the New Mexico Public Education Commission (PEC) and Dream Dine' Charter School, hereafter "the school," effective on 7/1/2024.

If Current Governing Body Member being removed is a board officer, please indicate which member is filling this role (if applicable): Governing Body Member(s) Resigning, Deceased, or Removed:

- Gavin Sosa – resigned 09/30/24
- Daniela Allen – resigned 11/26/24
- Virginia Kirk – resigned 11/26/24
- Donna Fernandez – resigned 11/26/24

Effective Date: 11/26/2024

The school's notification is hereby submitted by:

Signature of School Representative: Nadine Chatters Date: Dec 5, 2024

Signature of Governing Board Chair: Jerin E. Joo Date: 12/05/2024

For PEC/CSD use only

PEC Meeting Date:

Agenda: Consent (typical) Regular (unusual circumstance)

The school's notification was: Accepted Rejected (provide reason)

Electronic signature of CSD Director: _____ Date: _____

Resignation of GC

2 messages

Daniela Allen <daniela@dreamdine.org>

Tue, Nov 26, 2024 at 6:12 AM

To: Nadine Chatto <nadine@dreamdine.org>, Donna Fernandez <donna@dreamdine.org>, Talibah Begay <bookingtalibahbegay@gmail.com>, Veronica Tso <veronica@dreamdine.org>, Virginia Johnson <virginia@dreamdine.org>

Good morning Administration and board members, please accept this letter as my formal resignation of the Governing Council Vice President and Governing Council member of Dream Diné Charter School with immediate effect.

Ahéhee

Daniela Allen

Nadine Chatto <nadine@dreamdine.org>

Tue, Nov 26, 2024 at 5:06 PM

To: Daniela Allen <daniela@dreamdine.org>

Cc: Donna Fernandez <donna@dreamdine.org>, Talibah Begay <bookingtalibahbegay@gmail.com>, Veronica Tso <veronica@dreamdine.org>, Virginia Johnson <virginia@dreamdine.org>

Received... Thank you very much.

Nadine M. Chatto
Head Administrator
Dream Dine' Charter School
505-368-2500

[Quoted text hidden]

Resignation

1 message

Donna Fernandez <donna@dreamdine.org>

Tue, Nov 26, 2024 at 4:18 PM

To: Veronica Tso <veronica@dreamdine.org>, Talibah Begay <talibah@dreamdine.org>, Nadine Chatto <nadine@dreamdine.org>

Ahéhee for the opportunity to serve the community on the Dream Diné Governing Council. Dream Diné Charter School has an impactful Mission and Vision to provide culturally relevant teaching and learning experiences for the future leaders of the community.

As a teacher and Indigenous mathematician being able to help students see the beauty and inherent mathematical knowledge of our people opens their perspective and possibilities. I look forward to continuing to bring enriching culturally relevant math problems and tasks into the Dream Diné Charter School classroom. Culturally responsive teaching activates students' cognitive development and sense of belonging.


I know DDCS will grow into a school that honors the Diné ancestors through the Dual Language program by providing a bilingual education as the foundation of learning in all academic content areas. Providing a Placed-Based experiential curriculum will ensure students learn through their own community the values of science, language, math, and art.

This resignation from the Governing Council is painfully submitted and immediately effective. I am happy to serve DDCS in other capacities, please contact me at donna.fernandez345@gmail.com or aimathcircles@gmail.com. The Alliance of Indigenous Math Circles can provide Indigenous math activities both in-person and virtually to students and teachers.

Here are some logistical concerns in my departure:

1. Google login information:
donna@dreamdine.org
DreamDine24\$
2. Minutes of Special Meeting 11/18/24 and Regular Meeting 11/25/24 are attached are ready to be posted on the website.

 DDGC Special Mtg Minutes - 11_18_24.pdf

 DDGC Mtg Mins - November 25, 2024.pdf

3. The B2-Governing-Body-Member-Change-Notification needs to be sent to PED. Veronica I sent you the document filled out for the change of Gavin and Talibah, please sign and return it with Gavin's resignation letter.

Respectfully,
Donna Fernandez

 Dream Diné Charter School Mail - Time to go.pdf
132K

Resignation

2 messages

Virginia Johnson <virginia@dreamdine.org>

Tue, Nov 26, 2024 at 8:55 AM

To: Donna Fernandez <donna@dreamdine.org>, Daniela Allen <daniela@dreamdine.org>, Talibah Begay <bookingtalibahbegay@gmail.com>, Veronica Tso <veronica@dreamdine.org>, Nadine Chatto <nadine@dreamdine.org>

Yah-ya-hey,

This is my official letter of resignation from the Dream Dine Governing Council. Effective immediately.

Virginia Kirk

Nadine Chatto <nadine@dreamdine.org>

Tue, Nov 26, 2024 at 9:15 AM

To: Virginia Johnson <virginia@dreamdine.org>

Cc: Donna Fernandez <donna@dreamdine.org>, Daniela Allen <daniela@dreamdine.org>, Talibah Begay <Bookingtalibahbegay@gmail.com>, Veronica Tso <veronica@dreamdine.org>

Thank you ...

Nadine

Nadine M. Chatto
Head Administrator
Dream Dine' Charter School
505-368-2500

[Quoted text hidden]

Time to go

3 messages

Gavin Sosa <gavin@dreamdine.org>

Mon, Sep 30, 2024 at 9:54 PM

To: Veronica Tso <veronica@dreamdine.org>, Daniela Allen <daniela@dreamdine.org>, Virginia Johnson <virginia@dreamdine.org>, Donna Fernandez <donna@dreamdine.org>, Talibah Begay <bookingtalibahbegay@gmail.com>

Well friends, that's enough for me. You can consider this my resignation letter from the Dream Diné GC. But I want to leave you with one short story.

Arlin John is originally from Shiprock. He told me his mom was from the river and his dad was from the mountains. I worked with him at NACA over 10 years ago and he once shared with me an illustration of what he called the "Diné intellect".

The US government negotiated hundreds of treaties with tribes between 1780-1880. Nearly every time tribal leaders were deceived or misunderstood the terms of the treaties, and ultimately lost land rights and sovereignty. But not the Diné. Despite sitting across from experienced and professional lawyers and politicians, these "uneducated" Diné men negotiated the treaty of 1868 that brought their people home. They were able to negotiate for their land back, and protections for generations to come. Arlin told me this is the power of the Diné intellect. With no more "education" than those teachings, these men stood face to face with their enemies, and they won.

I wonder how many of us believe there's true power and wisdom in that language and those teachings, because it's clear that they are secondary at this school.

Every school in Shiprock and across the reservation has been telling Diné children and families for generations that they'll only succeed if they assimilate by mastering English and math. And those schools spend endless blocks of time every day focused on those skills. Shoot, look at Dream Diné's daily schedule, and tell me if it looks any different. And yet despite these efforts our kids continue to fall short. So either all those teachers are bad, or something is wrong with our kids, OR western education has imposed the wrong goals on Native children and their families.

I think it's the last one. Over a decade ago Shiprock families and the community defined success as children loving their home, their land, their community, and striving to participate in it and make it better. That's what Dream Diné was. We were never even close to perfect, but we believed in our community. Now this is just another public school focused on academics and using the excuse that it's the state telling us what to do. As ironic as this is to say, this biligaana doesn't have the energy, skills or patience to convince some of our Diné educators that there's a reservoir of power/wisdom/healing in that language and culture. Colonization is a hell of a thing...

Y'all may see it another way, but I don't think you have to look too hard to see through the BS. Good luck folks. Maybe one day you'll bring these children home....

Gavin

Daniela Allen <daniela@dreamdine.org>

Mon, Sep 30, 2024 at 10:27 PM

To: Gavin Sosa <gavin@dreamdine.org>

Cc: Veronica Tso <veronica@dreamdine.org>, Virginia Johnson <virginia@dreamdine.org>, Donna Fernandez <donna@dreamdine.org>, Talibah Begay <bookingtalibahbegay@gmail.com>

I appreciate all your input and for having your heart in the right place: in the children and community of shiprock. The dream will always stay alive and will be awoken one day.

Ahéhéé

[Quoted text hidden]

Daniela Allen <daniela@dreamdine.org>

Tue, Oct 1, 2024 at 1:07 PM

To: Gavin Sosa <gavin@dreamdine.org>

Cc: Veronica Tso <veronica@dreamdine.org>, Virginia Johnson <virginia@dreamdine.org>, Donna Fernandez <donna@dreamdine.org>, Talibah Begay <talibah@dreamdine.org>

Afternoon Board members,

As you know last night things got heated and emotions were high, due to miscommunication within our organization which made some of us go on the defense.

I reflected on my actions last night and though I was upset I have decided that I will continue my term as VP of Dream Dine'.

We need to be reminded we cannot forget who and what we are do this for, which are the children in our community.

We need to revisit the goals that have been set for our HA and hold ourselves accountable for what needs to be done to keep the mission going.

As a Board we have to address the lack of respect we have been getting from staff. Not addressing this causes tension and it is not healthy. We have to treat each other with respect and listen to one another because our community deserves the best from us for the sake of the children. If this is how we as a board are treated/talk to imagine how our families/guardians/parents/ staff/students and community members are being addressed.

Academics is a huge part of our children's education, but as a Board we need to reiterate what Dream Diné stands for, our vision and mission...

Ahéhéé

Daniela Allen

[Quoted text hidden]

From: [Davis, Nicola, PED](#)
To: [Olona-Elwell, Bianca, PED](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Resignation
Date: Tuesday, November 26, 2024 10:36:33 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

From: Brown, Melissa, PED <Melissa.Brown@ped.nm.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2024 10:11 AM
To: Virginia Johnson <virginia@dreamdine.org>
Cc: Davis, Nicola, PED <nicola.davis@ped.nm.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Resignation

Thank you, Virginia. Thank you for your service and dedication to your school and community. I am sorry to see such a dedicated board member leave.

Thank you and remember, Charter Schools are public schools!

Missy Brown | Charter Schools Ed Admin Supervisor
Charter Schools Division
Options for Parent and Families Bureau
Melissa.brown@ped.nm.gov
New Mexico Public Education Department
300 Don Gaspar Ave. | Santa Fe, NM 87501
C: (505) 551-2879 | [Anti-Racism/Anti-Oppression Portal](#)



From: Virginia Johnson <virginia@dreamdine.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2024 10:06 AM
To: Brown, Melissa, PED <Melissa.Brown@ped.nm.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Resignation

You don't often get email from virginia@dreamdine.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated outside of our organization. Exercise caution prior to clicking on links or opening attachments.

Hello Melissa,

This is to inform the PED that I am no longer on the Dream Dine Governing Council.

Sincerely,

Virginia Kirk

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Virginia Johnson** <virginia@dreamdine.org>

Date: Tue, Nov 26, 2024 at 8:55 AM

Subject: Resignation

To: Donna Fernandez <donna@dreamdine.org>, Daniela Allen

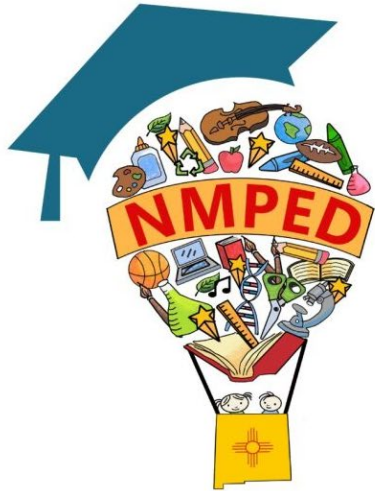
<daniela@dreamdine.org>, Talibah Begay <bookingtalibahbegay@gmail.com>,

Veronica Tso <veronica@dreamdine.org>, Nadine Chatto <nadine@dreamdine.org>

Yah-ya-hey,

This is my official letter of resignation from the Dream Dine Governing Council. Effective immediately.

Virginia Kirk



EDUCATION IS CALLING

EQUITY • EXCELLENCE • RELEVANCE

From: Daniela Allen <daniela@dreamdine.org>
Sent: Monday, November 25, 2024 10:38 PM
To: Chavez, Corina, PED <Corina.Chavez2@ped.nm.gov>; Brown, Melissa, PED <Melissa.Brown@ped.nm.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Legal team memo.

CAUTION: This email originated outside of our organization. Exercise caution prior to clicking on links or opening attachments.

Good late evening my apologies we received this email from Nadine and I didn't realize that there was a client privilege attached to this letter she shared with us, I believe we will discuss when and if we will share with your legal team at PED so if we're able to disregard my attachment and email until we decide as a board what our next steps should be, it's just been so frustrating and overwhelming dealing with everything and trying to keep my head up as a Governing Council member.

Your understanding would be greatly appreciated.

On Mon, Nov 25, 2024 at 10:06 PM Daniela Allen <daniela@dreamdine.org> wrote:

I was not aware of that til just now..

On Mon, Nov 25, 2024 at 10:05 PM Daniela Allen <daniela@dreamdine.org> wrote:

My apologies... I guess I should not have sent that to you... it's client privileges...

On Mon, Nov 25, 2024 at 6:04 PM Daniela Allen <daniela@dreamdine.org> wrote:

This is what we are dealing with, we should be able to serve as a governing council member no where does it state we need to be in a radius or if I'm not a parent voice I cannot sit on the board. There is some nepotism happening here.

Ahéhee
Daniela Allen

On Mon, Nov 25, 2024 at 5:45 PM Nadine Chatto <nadine@dreamdine.org> wrote:

In keeping within compliance of our charter contract, it is necessary to ensure we are following our bylaws. Anyone can come in and challenge the way we run business. I informed our attorney to ensure we get back on track and remain in-compliance.

Nadine

--
Nadine M. Chatto
Head Administrator
Dream Dine' Charter School
505-368-2500

DREAM DINÉ CHARTER SCHOOL GOVERNING COUNCIL Special MEETING
Monday, December 9, 2024—6:30 PM
Dream Diné Charter School, Shiprock, NM

Topic: DREAM DINÉ CHARTER SCHOOL GOVERNING COUNCIL Special MEETING
Time: Dec 9, 2024 06:30 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87231726107?pwd=dHx8qaDStGMcaWbaUXD7wwPSldykrL.>

1

Meeting ID: 872 3172 6107

Passcode: 890272

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,87231726107#,,,,*890272# US (Tacoma)

+13462487799,,87231726107#,,,,*890272# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

• +1 360 209 5623 US

• +1 386 347 5053 US

• +1 507 473 4847 US

Meeting ID: 872 3172 6107

Passcode: 890272

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kej1HCA5Uc>

Dream Diné Charter School's Governing Council meets once per month on the fourth Monday at 6 PM. Due to COVID-19, board meetings will be held by teleconference. The Governing Council and employees of the Dream Diné Charter School shall meet via the Zoom meeting platform or at Dream Diné Charter School. Members of the public who wish to access this open meeting may do so by clicking on the Zoom link or calling the phone number listed above.

Our Mission

Dream Diné is a place-based elementary school where the Diné (Navajo) culture, language and history are the foundation of an experiential curriculum. Through a dual-language program, we will nurture strong, compassionate, bilingual young people who are committed to their personal and community health, wellness, relationships and progress.

Minutes

- A. Call Meeting to order: 6:53 PM
- B. Roll Call
 - a. Governing Council Members:
 - i. Veronica Tso, President - Present
 - ii. Vacant, Vice President
 - iii. Vacant, Secretary
 - iv. Vacant, Member
 - v. Talibah Begay, Member - Present
 - b. Staff
 - i. Nadine Chatto, Head Administrator - Present
 - ii. Charlotte Archuleta, Financial Manager - Not Present
- C. Opening Comments: Talibah said she hopes we have a good meeting. (switched to Navajo) Start in a positive way.
- D. Approval of Agenda: Nadine Chatto read the agenda for the record.

Motion to approve... Agenda without modification	Veronica Tso	Talibah Begay				
Motion to Approve	X					
Second Motion		X				
Vote For	X	X				
Vote Against						
Vote Abstain						

Motion carries with 2 voting for, 0 against and 0 abstaining

- E. Approval of Minutes:
 - a. [DD Special Meeting 11/18/24](#)
 - b. [DD Regular GC Meeting 11/25/24](#)

Motion to approve... deferment of two meeting minutes to Dec.	Veronica Tso	Talibah Begay				

16, 2024.						
Motion to Approve	X					
Second Motion		X				
Vote For	X	X				
Vote Against						
Vote Abstain						

Motion carries with 2 voting for, 0 against and 0 abstaining

F. Public Comments (limit time to 3 minutes) No public comments.

G. Discussion and Possible Action Items

a. Governing Council (GC):

i. Acknowledgement of membership resignations: D. Allen, D. Fernandez, V. Kirk

Mrs. Allen, Ms. Fernandez and Ms. Kirk submitted their resignations on November 26, 2024. They were submitted to the Public Charter Division. Mrs. Tso asked if we need to do an action item on the three individuals that resigned. Mrs. Chatto commented that they are not up for approval, it just gets submitted back to the Public Charter Division and we're supposed to do that within 30 days of them resigning. Letters have been submitted and we're just acknowledging it.

ii. K. Johnson - new membership

Mrs. Tso stated Mr. Johnson sent his letter of interest and resume a couple of months ago. Mrs. Chatto commented that Kerby Johnson submitted his letter of interest and resume. He did participate in two of the meetings as a guest. I believe it was in November and October's meeting. We had held off on bringing anybody on board, but at this point we have only two members. And so with his interest, we would like to have him back as a member with Dream Dine' Charter School. Talibah Begay commented about Mr. Johnson being a president of another school. She asked for clarification. Mrs. Chatto responded, Mr, Johnson is serving with the Northern Tribally Controlled School and is not locally a part of their membership. He is a part of the membership with Kinteel, Aztec and it is a tribal school and not a public school. We did confirm that. Talbah had another question. How are we advertising for GC membership? It was advertised by word of mouth. We were looking more at community members to join. Talibah also commented if we had any parent interest. Mrs. Chatto stated that we do have a couple of parents who are interested but hesitant. They want to know more about what the board is about. We do have a vacancy for a parent and we do have an HPAC meeting.

Motion to approve...Kerby Johnson as a GC Member	Veronica Tso	Talibah Begay				
Motion to Approve	X					
Second Motion		X				
Vote For	X	X				
Vote Against						
Vote Abstain						

Motion carries with 2 voting for, 0 against and 0 abstaining

iii. V. Tso - renew membership

Mrs. Tso stated she did not have her letter of interest submitted yet. She asked that she defer renewal and that she has until the end of the month to serve as a member. She does have time to get her letter in. Mr. Johnson said he was ok with getting her membership approved today so we can get the school moving forward. Talibah Begay said it was ok with her to serve now or we can wait.

Motion to approve...deferment of Mrs. Tso's renewal membership to Dec. 16, 2024	Veronica Tso	Talibah Begay	Kerby Johnson			
Motion to Approve		X				
Second Motion			X			
Vote For		X	X			
Vote Against						
Vote Abstain	X					

Motion carries with 2 voting for, 0 against and 1 abstaining

b. List of Annual Compliance Requirements in Performance Framework & Annual Report

We are now a State Charter as of July 1, 2024. We are going to be staying as a state charter until 2029 when we go up for reauthorization again. Mrs. Chatto gave a little history about reauthorization and contract negotiations with the Public Charter Division. We had a list of compliances we are required to uphold and it's a part of our Performance Framework. They do an annual report every year. So that was supposed to have been done by October 1st and of course it wasn't done due to some turmoil. We

need to make sure this is a part of our agenda and we need to go through it. There is a form that we have to review and make sure we are following it. If we are not, we need to make corrections. We were shown the transition checklist that we went through reauthorization. We are now using a new form and it was shared with us. Just a side note... As new board members, Mr. Johnson, there are some documents we need to go through. We can set some time aside for you to review. The compliance certification was reviewed with supporting documents on the website. Mrs. Chatto will be meeting with the Public Charter Commission concerning the lateness of this compliance document. Governing Board members will review and submit questions before the next meeting.

We do have a visitor, Adam Begaye, a board candidate on the call. We will be adding him on December 16th for membership.

Mr. Begaye introduced himself and commented he has shared an interest in being on the governing council.

H. Next Governing Council Meeting: December 16, 2024 @ 6 PM

I. Closing Comments: Mr. Morris commented that he acknowledged the effort and movement of the Governing Council membership of our school. I know it is a challenge. Very appreciative on moving forward and filling the positions as quickly as possible. Mr. Johnson gave his humble thanks to the board members and everybody here. He looks forward to working with everyone and to continue in making Dream Dine' one of the best charter schools out here in the Northern reservation. He looks forward to helping us and thank you so much for this great opportunity. He really appreciates it, from the bottom of his heart. He also stated he has a soft spot for education, especially for Native kids. Thank you so much. He loves learning new things.

We lost Talibah, GC member, before adjournment.

J. Adjournment @ 6:45 PM

Motion to approve... adjournment at 6:45 PM	Veronica Tso	Talibah Begay	Kerby Johnson			
Motion to Approve			X			
Second Motion	X					
Vote For	X		X			
Vote Against						
Vote Abstain						

Motion carries with 2 voting for, 0 against and 0 abstaining, Talibah Begay not voting.