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**2055 NM-602**

**Gallup, NM 87301**

**Phone:  505-863-1900  Fax:  505-863-8826**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**SDIS Special Board Meeting - Hybrid**

Tuesday, October 22, 2024 at 5:30 pm

SDIS Room E/F

**Join Zoom Meeting**

**https://zoom.us/j/5099874772?pwd=ZWc5RmhYOWZZSjlYYmg0SnE2QmZidz09**

**Meeting ID: 509 987 4772**

**Passcode: H4udRY**

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| **MISSION STATEMENT**  *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.* |

I Meeting Call to Order @ 5:30 PM in October 22, 2024

II. Roll Call

1. Zowie Banteah, present; Georgianna Desiderio; present; Jennifer Russell – present and Chair Dr. Henderson, present

III. Approval of Agenda

1. Georgiann Desiderio made a motion to approve the agenda for October 22, 2024; Zowie Banteah second the motion
2. Roll call vote: Zowie Banteah – yes, Georgianna Desiderio-yes, Jennifer Russell-yes, Dr. Henderson – yes (4 yes, 0 opposed and 0 abstained).

IV. Discussion of Board Vacancy and Recruitment of New Board Member pursuant to SDIS Governing Council Bylaws

1. Georgianna Desiderio made a comment that an interested person wants to attend the next two meetings before deciding.

V. Discussion of Article in Gallup Independent Newspaper published on October 18

1. Georgianna Desiderio made comments regarding newspaper article. Jennifer Russell made comments as well. Chair Henderson reminded all to speak respectfully, we hear the frustrations from all, let’s talk to one another without jumping to conclusions, we need to work together and not engage in disharmony. Reminders to parents that a regular board meeting is the time and space to address these concerns as parents tried to engage in having their voices heard when we started the Special Meeting.

VI. Discussion of Anonymous Letter received by Governing Council Members Georgianna Desiderio and Jennifer Russell and discussion of allegations raised in Letters

1. Georgianna Desiderio made comments to respond to anonymous letter, to please bring concerns to the board, and there’s a proper chain of command to bring these issues to the board. There seems to be misinterpretation about information being shared. She clarified that the Head Administrator is the liaison between the Governing Council and the school. Georgianna stated that she received a letter of harassment and she is taking it as constructive criticism. At the end of the day, you can always come talk to her about issues.
2. Jennifer Russell stated comments to her also receiving a letter of harassment. She mentioned that nothing was accomplished with that letter. If you have issues to voice, there is a chain of command to follow.

VII. **Executive/Closed Session** (*Pursuant to Section 10-15-1(H)(2) NMSA 1978, the Board will meet in closed session to discuss personnel matters related to Head Administrator with advice from legal counsel*).

1. Georgianna Desiderio made a motion that we go into Executive Session. Zowie Banteah second that motion.
2. Roll call vote: Zowie Banteah – yes, Georgianna Desiderio-yes, Jennifer Russell-yes, Dr. Henderson – yes (4 yes, 0 opposed and 0 abstained).
3. Georgianna Desiderio made a motion that we come out of Executive Session. Zowie Banteah amend the motion to state for the record that only matters discussed were related to Head Administrator, no action was taken. Georgianna Desiderio second the amended motion.
4. Roll call vote: Zowie Banteah – yes, Georgianna Desiderio-yes, Jennifer Russell-yes, Dr. Henderson – yes (4 yes, 0 opposed and 0 abstained).
5. Chair Dr. Henderson stated it is now 8:24 pm we are now out of Executive Session
6. Chair Dr. Henderson acknowledged parent and student concerns and welcomed them to submit their concerns for the next scheduled board meeting.
7. Legal Counsel clarified the role of Open Meetings Act
8. Dr. Chair asked if HA was on the meeting; and clarified with her on her role and GC members role and to address student and parent concerns immediately.
9. Georgianna Desiderio made a motion that we move to issue a Letter of Direction the Head Administrator. Zowie Banteah second the motion.
10. Roll call vote: Zowie Banteah – yes, Georgianna Desiderio-yes, Jennifer Russell-yes, Dr. Henderson – yes (4 yes, 0 opposed and 0 abstained).

VIII. Adjournment @ 8:36 PM