Minutes of Regular Meeting
The Board of Education
Gallup McKinley County Schools District #1
640 Boardman Ave.
Gallup, New Mexico 87301
May 14, 2026

A Regular meeting of the Board of Education of Gallup McKinley County Schools was held May 14, 2026, beginning at 5:30 PM in the gymnasium of Twin Lakes Elementary School, 19 miles North Highway 491, Gallup, NM 87301 or via YouTube@GMCS.ORG

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
Kevin Mitchell, President
Priscilla Benally, Vice President
Georgianna Desiderio, Secretary
Barbara Colaianni-Wagner, Member
Valory Wangler, Member

GUESTS

Tanya Chischilly
Chris Carson
Caroline Day
Patrick Yazzie
Taylor Benny
Michelle Chavez
Vernashe Casamero
Nancy Burnside
Qualey Begay
Arnel Dela Cruz
Melissa Bond
Mathew Tom
Ashton Tom
Madison Tom
Crystal Tom
Taylor Cardy
Clyrisa Bahe
Anitya K.
Jadda Juan
Jessica Juan
Alray Martinez
Izaiah Juan
Marcella Brown
Monica Tso
Valerie Scott
Elaine Perry
Clifford Desiderio
Klay S. Desiderio
Lynette Morgan
Faith Morgan
Jimmy Carl
Javan Arviso
Lacinda Arviso
Louann Yonnie
Kayla Morgan
Lori Hudson
Ben Begay
Bill Johnson
Tyrone Joe
Ariel Perry
Selena Perry
Luke Perry
Jophina Joe
Payton Gracia
Jennifer Lee
Ermanda King-Begay
Mary King
Brian Begay
Maximas King-Begay
Leandra Peshlakai
Taidem Littleben
Stephanie Perry
Daryl Antone
Rhonda Williams
Emerson Perry
Graham McNeill
Burlene Padilla
Michael McLaughlin
Lovonia Robison
Bertha Arviso
Lynnea Smith
Jeremy Etsitty
Christine Smith
Lauren Carviso
Deanna Crask
Denise Ellis
Richenda John
Anthony Platero
Adam Manycows
Jenny Pond

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:
Jvanna Hanks, Interim Superintendent
Dr. Ashley Ryan, Assistant Superintendent of Personnel, SPED, Safety, Counseling
Katherine Crisler, Assistant Superintendent of Procurement, Construction, Maintenance, Housing, R&D
Dr. Carrie Lovato, Assistant Superintendent of Assessment, Culture Ed, IT, Hearing, Food Services, Early Childhood, RISE
Gerald Horacek, Assistant Superintendent of Transportation, Athletics, CCCR, Director of Instruction - absent
Joan Nez, Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - ROLL CALL
Kevin Mitchell called the Board of Education meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 14, 2026, in the gymnasium of Twin Lakes Elementary School, 19 miles North of Gallup, Gallup, New Mexico. (Five board members were present for roll call: Kevin Mitchell, Priscilla Benally, Georgianna Desiderio, Barbara Colaianni-Wagner, and Valory Wangler)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Priscilla Benally moves, and Barbara Colaianni-Wagner seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously. (Five board members present and voting: Valory Wangler-yes, Barbara Colaianni-Wagner-yes, Georgianna Desiderio-yes, Priscilla Benally-yes, and Kevin Mitchell-yes)

Recognition –

A. NMSBA 2026 Excellence in Student Achievement - Lauren Carviso
B. Recognition - Film Prize Jr. New Mexico - 5 Students and 1 Advisor: Recognized were Timara Smith, Arianna Chavez, Lucas Martinez, Amanda Shorty, Reagan Russett and Advisor, Chrisopher Carson.
C. Recognition - Skills USA - 12 Students and 5 Advisors: Gallup High recognized were Ian Hudson, Hunter Jack, Tyler Joe, Jace Peters, Taylor Benny, and Advisors Jeff Tayor and Brendan Moore. Crownpoint High recognized were Landen Littleben, Austin Begay, Kory Harvey, and Verna Sue Casamero, Advisor. Miyamura High School recognized were Lloyd Yazzie, Lucas Voxx Pimentel, Demetrio Willie, and Monika Tso, Advisor. Central High recognized were Maximus King-Begay and Jimmy Carl, Advisor.
D. Recognition - Health Occupation Students of America (HOSA) - 17 Students and 2 Advisors: Crownpoint High recognized Davineen Perry, Darius Simmons, Shondiin Morgan, Briseis Haskie, Latanya Chavez, Clyrissa Bebo, Zoe Garcia, Qualey Begay, Jessica Juan, LaDarius Robinson and Sheila Ganzon, Advisor. Miyamura High recognized Jedadiah Begay, Taylor Cardy, Ethan Lee, Nathaniel Robertson, Zoe Skeet, and Amulfo Sabado, Advisor.
E. Recognition - Navajo Nation Bilingual Seal and the Spanish Bilingual Seal - 8 students: Navajo Nation Bilingual Seal recipients: Miyamura High - Jaysiah Arviso and Darwin James. Gallup High - Sterlen Henderson. Tse Yi Gai High - Wright Sandoval. Spanish Bilingual Seal recipients: Miyamura High – Melany Mejia, Avelardo Reeendiz, and Gabriela Sanchez. Gallup High – Samantha Chavez.

The board commended all the students for their outstanding recognition, including all the parents, staff, and administrators.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Valory Wangler moves, and Georgianna Desiderio seconded the minutes of the Board of Education regular meeting of April 2, 2026, be approve as presented. Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously. (Five board members present and voting: Valory Wangler-yes, Barbara Colaianni-Wagner-yes, Georgianna Desiderio-yes, Priscilla Benally-yes, and Kevin Mitchell-yes)

Valory Wangler moves, and Priscilla Benally seconded the minutes of the Board of Education Special meeting of April 14, 2026, be approve as presented. Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously. (Five board members present and voting: Valory Wangler-yes, Barbara Colaianni-Wagner-yes, Georgianna Desiderio-yes, Priscilla Benally-yes, and Kevin Mitchell-yes)

PUBLIC COMMENT

Graham McNeill – GMCS related concerns
Angela Shaw – GMCS related concerns

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Priscilla Benally moves, and Valory Wangler seconded the consent agenda items be approve as presented. (a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m, n) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously. (Five board members present and voting: Valory Wangler-yes, Barbara Colaianni-Wagner-yes, Georgianna Desiderio-yes, Priscilla Benally-yes, and Kevin Mitchell-yes)

A. Approval of GMCS Financial Transactions for May 14, 2026 – CONSENT
B. Approval of Out-of-State Travel: Seven (7) Bus Technicians, Tulsa, OK, June 1-4, 2026, IC Bus University Training (Transportation) – CONSENT
C. Approval of Disposal of Fixed Assets and Deletion from Inventory – CONSENT
D. Approval of disposal of fixed assets – CONSENT
E. Approval of the Construction, Maintenance, and Mobile Home Supplies & Materials ITB-2026-19RB – CONSENT
F. Approval of Fence Materials and Installation, ITB-2026-30RB – CONSENT
G. Approval of award of the ITB-2026-34RB, Solid Waste Disposal Services – CONSENT
H. Approval Passive Optical Network Support & Repair Parts Price Agreement, ITB-2026-33HC of April 30, 2026 – CONSENT
I. Approval Re-Bid On-Demand Bus & Fleet Painting, Graphics Design & Decal Services – CONSENT
J. Approval Fiscal Audit Services, RFP-2026-35HC of April 30, 2026 – CONSENT
K. Approval the Re-Bid On-Demand Fleet Repairs & Preventative Maintenance Services – CONSENT
L. Approval Support Letter for Navajo Health Education – CONSENT

M. Approval Early Graduation Spring 2026 for State ID 789398484 Gallup Central High – CONSENT
N. Approval Early Graduation Spring 2026 for State ID 258435718 Gallup Central High – CONSENT

REPORTS

A. Interim Superintendent Report – 2027 Budget Update by Katherine Crisler and Jvanna Hanks
B. Notices and Communications
1. May 25, 2026 - Memorial Day/No School
2. June 10, 2026 - Last Day of School
3. June 11, 2026 - BOE Meeting/5:30PM/Board Room
4. June 19, 2026 - Juneteenth Holiday/No School
5. Graduation Schedule:

- May 20, 2026 – 6:30 PM
  - Thoreau High School
  - Crownpoint High School
- May 21, 2026 – 6:30 PM
  - Tse'Yi'Gai High School
  - Navajo Pine High School
  - Gallup High School
- May 22, 2026 – 10:00 AM
  - Gallup Central High School
- May 22, 2026 – 6:30 PM
  - Ramah High School
  - Miyamura High School
  - Tohatchi High School

NEW BUSINESS

A. Approval to name Crownpoint High Stadium to Tim Rice Memorial Stadium Waiving Board Policy F-1400 Naming Facility - ACTION

Georgianna Desiderio moves, and Priscilla Benally seconded to approve to name Crownpoint High Stadium Tim Rice Memorial Stadium, waiving Board Policy F-1400 Naming Facility as presented. Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously. (Five board members present and voting: Valory Wangler-yes, Barbara Colaianni-Wagner-yes, Georgianna Desiderio-yes, Priscilla Benally-yes, and Kevin Mitchell-yes)

B. Final Approval of Research Project Titled "Effects of Indigenous Literature on Social Emotional Vocabulary in Students with Disabilities and Behavior Challenges" - ACTION

Priscilla Benally moves, and Valory Wangler seconded for Final Approval of Research Project Titled "Effects of Indigenous Literature on Social Emotional Vocabulary in Students with Disabilities and Behavior Challenges" as presented. Upon roll call vote, motion carried. (Five board members present and voting: Valory Wangler-yes, Barbara Colaianni-Wagner-yes, Georgianna Desiderio-no, Priscilla Benally-yes, and Kevin Mitchell-yes)

C. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the UNM College of Education and Human Sciences to obtain grant funding from the NMPED to implement a principal preparation program - ACTION

Priscilla Benally moves, and Valory Wangler seconded, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the UNM College of Education and Human Sciences to obtain grant funding from the NMPED to implement a principal preparation program as presented. Upon roll call vote, motion carried. (Five board members present and voting: Valory Wangler-yes, Barbara Colaianni-Wagner-yes, Georgianna Desiderio-no, Priscilla Benally-yes, and Kevin Mitchell-yes)

D. Final approval of the IDEA B Entitlement funding for School Year 2026 - ACTION

Georgianna Desiderio moves, and Valory Wangler seconded to approve the IDEA B Entitlement funding for School Year 2026 as presented. Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously. (Five board members present and voting: Valory Wangler-yes, Barbara Colaianni-Wagner-yes, Georgianna Desiderio-yes, Priscilla Benally-yes, and Kevin Mitchell-yes)

E. Approve Board Meeting Schedule for the 2026-2027 School Year - ACTION

Priscilla Benally moves, and Kevin Mitchell seconded to approve the Board Meeting Schedule for the 2026-2027 School Year as presented. Upon roll call vote, motion to approve as presented failed. (Five board members present and voting: Valory Wangler-no, Barbara Colaianni-Wagner-no, Georgianna Desiderio-no, Priscilla Benally-no, and Kevin Mitchell-no)

Georgianna Desiderio moves, and Valory Wangler seconded Table to June board meeting the Board Meeting Schedule for the 2026-2027 School Year. Upon roll call vote, motion carried. (Five board members present and voting: Valory Wangler-yes, Barbara Colaianni-Wagner-yes, Georgianna Desiderio-yes, Priscilla Benally-yes, and Kevin Mitchell-yes) Board recommends one meeting a month.

ADJOURN

There being no further business Georgianna Desiderio moves, and Valory Wangler seconded the meeting be adjourn. Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously. (Five board members present and voting: Valory Wangler-yes, Barbara Colaianni-Wagner-yes, Georgianna Desiderio-yes, Priscilla Benally-yes, and Kevin Mitchell-yes) Meeting adjourned on Thursday, May 14, 2026, at 8:13 p.m.

Kevin Mitchell, President

Georgianna Desiderio, Secretary

Recorded by
Joan Nez
May 14, 2026