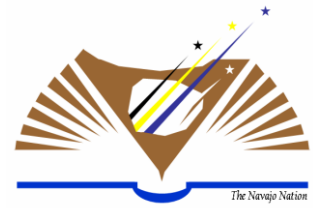




**DEPARTMENT OF DINÉ EDUCATION  
THE NAVAJO NATION**

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Ben Shelly  
President

Rex Lee Jim  
Vice-President

**NNBESE-264-2014**

**RESOLUTION OF THE  
NAVAJO NATION BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Relating to Education; Approving of the Department of Diné Education’s Initiative to Have Public Law 100-297 Grant and Public Law 93-638 Contract Schools, and a New Mexico Public Charter School to Pilot and Implement the Navajo Nation’s Alternative Accountability Workbook.**

**WHEREAS:**

1. The Department of Diné Education (hereinafter the “Department”) is the administrative agency within the Navajo Nation with responsibility and authority for implementing and enforcing the educational laws of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 1801(B); 10 N.N.C. § 107(A). The Department is under the immediate direction of the Board. 10 N.N.C. § 107(B); and,
2. The Navajo Nation Board of Education (hereinafter the “Board”) is the education agent in the Executive Branch for the purposes of overseeing the operation of all schools serving the Navajo Nation. 10 N.N.C. § 106(A). The Board carries out its duties and responsibilities through the Department of Diné Education. 10 N.N.C. §106(G)(3). In addition, “the Board [has the] general power to monitor the activities of all Bureau of Indian Affairs funded schools and local community school boards serving the Navajo Nation...” 10 N.N.C. § 106(G)(1); and,
3. Pursuant to 10 N.N.C. §106(G)(3)(a), (b), and (j), “(t)he Board...through the Navajo Nation Department of Education shall “(e)stablish instructional content and achievement standards and customized criterion referenced achievement testing instruments for schools serving the Navajo Nation, including consolidation of the standards of the three states overlapping the Navajo Nation with those of the Navajo Nation for Navajo language and cultural knowledge”; and, “(e)stablish policies and procedures for carrying out the accountability provisions of the federal education laws with regard to all Bureau of Indian Affairs funded schools serving the Navajo Nation”; and, “oversee research on the educational achievement, problems, and needs of Navajo Nation students and school systems”; and,
4. Pursuant to 10 N.N.C. §123(B)-(F), the Department is specifically authorized to:

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

*Jimmie C. Begay, President · Dolly C. Begay, Vice President · Dr. Bernadette Todacheene, Secretary  
Members: Katherine D. Arviso · Rose J. Yazzie · Gloria Johns · Bennie Begay · Patrick D. Lynch  
Timothy Benally, M.Ed, Acting Navajo Nation Superintendent of Schools*

- A. Collaborate “with all schools and educational entities serving the Navajo Nation to develop and implement an educational accountability system. The educational accountability system will be based upon academic standards and the Navajo Nation-adopted academic assessment, and other relevant academic indicators.”
  - B. Establish “a level of standard or academic achievement for each grade level that students will meet to demonstrate mastery in order to make satisfactory academic progress.”
  - C. Assure “an effective educational accountability system”... where “each school serving the Navajo Nation shall provide academic test scores on each individual student to the Department of Diné Education. The Department of Diné Education will use student test data to create Navajo achievement profiles. The achievement profiles will be shared with each school to assist them in improving academic achievement. On an annual basis, the Department of Diné Education will publish an Accountability Report on student achievement and related information for public dissemination.”
  - D. Comply “with the confidentiality and student privacy provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA") in the use of student information for reports and research purposes.”
  - E. Collaborate “and guide a span of educational research with research organizations, post-secondary institutions, and the Navajo Nation Institutional Research Review Board; and,”
5. The most recent version of the Navajo Nation’s Alternative Accountability Workbook (dated September 2013) meets provisions of Navajo law to that grants the Navajo Nation (through the Board and Department) oversight over schools operating under the full jurisdiction, sanction and authorization of the Navajo Nation, while also working cooperatively and in partnership with those schools; and,
  6. The Navajo Nation’s Alternative Accountability Workbook intends to create an academic accountability system on the Navajo Nation for tribally-controlled P.L. 100-297 grant and P.L. 93-638 contract schools, including a New Mexico public charter school. The Navajo Nation’s Alternative Accountability Workbook requires the accountability of schools on the Navajo Nation be driven by both core academic standards, including the Common Core State Standards, and the Five (5) Diné Content standards. The Navajo Nation’s Alternative Accountability Workbook reinforces the cultural content embedded in the Navajo language, culture, history, government, and character development assist Navajo students to make tremendous contributions to a global society when by grounded in their own culture and language. Title 1, Section 1116 and 25 CFR § 30.110 creates the opportunity for the Navajo

Nation to develop an alternative definition of Adequate Yearly Progress (“AYP”) that is more appropriately tailored to the unique history and culture our Nation; and,

7. The Navajo Nation’s Alternative Accountability Workbook was also submitted to the United States Department of Education and United States Department of Interior and Bureau of Indian Education for their review and approval; and,
8. The Board and Department finds that this is the perfect opportunity to work cooperatively and in partnership with Navajo schools (P.L. 100-297 and P.L. 93-638), including the Bureau of Indian Education, and a New Mexico public charter school in the best interests of our students, parents, communities, and leaders. The fourteen (14) schools who will participate in the Navajo Nation’s Alternative Accountability Workbook pilot are:
  - a. Many Farms Community School, Inc.
  - b. To’hajiilee-He Community School Board of Education, Inc.
  - c. Shonto Preparatory School, Inc.
  - d. Wide Ruins Community & Junior High School, Inc.
  - e. Na’Neelzhiin Ji’Olta Day School, Inc.
  - f. Hunters Point Boarding School, Inc.
  - g. Lukachukai Community School, Inc.
  - h. Little Singer Community School, Inc.
  - i. Tsé Nitsaa Deez’ahi Diné Bi’Olta’, Inc. (Rock Point Community School, Inc.)
  - j. Chį́chınbeto Community School, Inc.
  - k. Dream Diné Charter School (New Mexico Public Charter School)
  - l. Greasewood Springs Community School, Inc.
  - m. Rough Rock Community School, Inc.
  - n. Greyhills Academy High School, Inc.

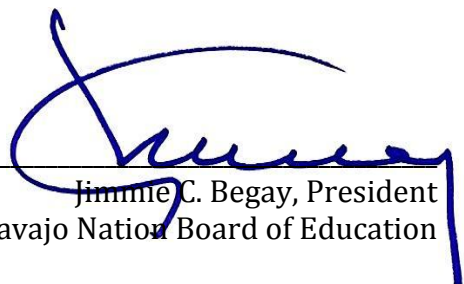
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. The Navajo Nation Board of Education approves the Department of Diné Education’s initiative to have Public Law 100-297 grant and Public Law 93-638 contract schools, and a New Mexico public charter school to pilot and implement the Navajo Nation’s Alternative Accountability Workbook at the following schools:
  - a. Many Farms Community School, Inc.
  - b. To’hajiilee-He Community School Board of Education, Inc.
  - c. Shonto Preparatory School, Inc.
  - d. Wide Ruins Community & Junior High School, Inc.
  - e. Na’Neelzhiin Ji’Olta Day School, Inc.

- f. Hunters Point Boarding School, Inc.
  - g. Lukachukai Community School, Inc.
  - h. Little Singer Community School, Inc.
  - i. Tsé Nitsaa Deez'ahi Diné Bi'Olta', Inc. (Rock Point Community School, Inc.)
  - j. Chłchınbeto Community School, Inc.
  - k. Dream Diné Charter School (New Mexico Public Charter School)
  - l. Greasewood Springs Community School, Inc.
  - m. Rough Rock Community School, Inc.
  - n. Greyhills Academy High School, Inc.
2. The Navajo Nation Board of Education also thanks these schools for the initiative and cooperation in working with the Department of Diné Education on behalf of the children of the Navajo Nation.
3. The Navajo Nation Board of Education hereby recommends and empowers the Superintendent of Schools to take any actions deemed necessary and proper to carry out the purposes of this resolution and directive.

#### CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Board of Education of the Navajo Nation at a duly called meeting at Window Rock, Arizona (Navajo Nation) at which a quorum was present, motion by Katherine D. Arviso and seconded by Bennie Begay and that the same was passed by a vote of 7 in favor; 0 opposed; 0 abstained, this 12th day of September 2014.



Jimmie C. Begay, President  
Navajo Nation Board of Education