

**DEMING CESAR CHAVEZ CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL
GOVERNANCE COUNCIL REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

March 3, 2026

6:07 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Deming Cesar Chavez Charter High School Room #14

The Deming Cesar Chavez Charter High School Governance Council Members met in a Regular Board Meeting on March 3, 2026, at 6:07 p.m. The following Governing Council Members attended: Nick Perez (President), *Absent*, Kerena Vazquez Levario (Vice-President), *Present*, Barbara Reedy (Secretary/Treasurer), *Absent*, Britney Valdez (Member), *Present*, and AnaMaria Sandoval (Member), *Present*. See the sign-in sheet for others who attended.

I. Call Meeting to Order – Kerena Vazquez Levario, presiding.

- A. Kerena Vazquez Levario, Vice-President, called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- B. Roll Call was conducted, and a quorum was established 3/5.
Nick Perez – Absent
Barbara Reedy - Absent
- C. Reading of the Mission Statement.
- D. *Adoption of the Agenda:

Motion was made by Anamaria Sandoval, Member, to ADOPT the Agenda as presented; seconded by Britney Valdez, Member. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

- E. *Meeting Minutes Review/Approval for February 10, 2026:

Motion was made by Britney Valdez, Member, to APPROVE the February 10, 2026, meeting minutes as presented; seconded by Anamaria Sandoval, Member. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

II. Public Comment (Limited Public Forum)

Time Limit: 15 minutes total. No Public Comment was given.

III. Staff/Student Spotlight

Staff Spotlight:

Interim Director Marlene Padron recognized Mr. Omar Leon for his outstanding dedication and support to the school community. Mr. Leon was commended for consistently going above and beyond in his role, demonstrating a strong work ethic, positive attitude, and willingness to assist both staff and students. His contributions have been instrumental in supporting daily operations and fostering a positive school environment.

Student Spotlight:

Student representative Rosie Armijo provided an update on recent student activities and initiatives. She highlighted February efforts focused on promoting healthy relationships, including student-led activities and awareness campaigns.

Additional highlights included:

- A Valentine’s Day activity, where students participated in exchanging notes and treats, fostering a positive school culture
- Senior activities, including cap and gown pictures to celebrate the upcoming graduation
- Planning for upcoming events such as prom, a senior trip, and a potential senior bonfire, pending required approvals and permits

The Governing Council expressed appreciation for the student leadership and engagement demonstrated.

IV. Committee Report – Audit, Finance, School Planning/Academic, Equity Council

- Audit Committee: The Audit Committee did not meet. There is no update at this time.
- Finance Committee: The Finance Committee did not meet. There is no update at this time.
- School Planning/Academic: The School Planning/Academic Committee did not meet. There is no update at this time.
- Equity Council: The Equity Council did not meet. There is no update at this time.
- Council Development: Governing Council: Professional Development information is shared about upcoming trainings later in the Agenda under Discussion Items.

V. Discussion/Action Items

A. Community School Food Distribution Report: *(Please see the attached Food Distribution Update from Mrs. Martinez-Lopez.)*

B. *Approval of 2026-27 School Calendar: Marlene Padron, Interim Director, presented the 2026–2027 school calendar. She stated that the Governing Council had previously reviewed the draft and no changes were made, aside from correcting a minor typographical error.

Ms. Padron shared that the calendar was developed in collaboration with staff, who agreed with the proposed schedule. Adjustments were made to avoid extending the school year into June by redistributing instructional days throughout the year, while maintaining the school’s 4-day schedule.

It was also noted that the calendar aligns with Deming Public Schools to ensure coordination of transportation and food services.

Motion was made by Britney Valdez, Member, to APPROVE the 2026-27 School Calendar; seconded by Anamaria Sandoval, Member. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

- C. *Acceptance of FY25 Financial Audit Report Release: Chris Masters, Business Manager, reported that the FY25 Financial Audit Report has not yet been released by the State Auditor; however, release is expected in the near future. He noted that the audit has already been reviewed internally and is currently pending final processing by the state.

Mr. Masters recommended tabling the item until the report is officially released.

Motion was made by Anamaria Sandoval, Member, to TABLE the Acceptance of FY25 Financial Audit Report Release; seconded by Britney Valdez, Member. MOTION CARRIED 3-0

- D. *Approval of Out-of-State Travel – Senior Trip to Chihuahuas Game in El Paso, TX on April 8, 2026: Marlene Padron, Interim Director, presented the request for approval of out-of-state travel for the senior trip scheduled for April 8, 2026, to attend a Chihuahuas baseball game in El Paso, Texas. She noted that this trip is part of the school’s annual senior activities.

Motion was made by Anamaria Sandoval, Member, to APPROVE the Approval of Out-of-State Travel – Senior Trip to Chihuahuas Game in El Paso, TX on April 8, 2026; seconded by Britney Valdez, Member. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

- E. *Approval of Budget Adjustment Request – SEG Final Adjustment: Chris Masters, Business Manager, presented information regarding the SEG Final Adjustment. He reported that although the final unit adjustment has not yet been received, a recent memo indicates the unit value will increase by approximately 1.1% for the current year.

Mr. Masters explained that final budget figures will be determined once the state provides updated calculations based on the 40, 80, and 120-day student counts. He recommended tabling the item until the finalized numbers are available and a complete Budget Adjustment Request (BAR) can be prepared.

Motion was made by Anamaria Sandoval, Member, to TABLE the Budget Adjustment Request – SEG Final Adjustment; seconded by Britney Valdez, Member. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

- F. Governing Council Upcoming Conferences: Marlene Padron, Interim Director, provided information regarding upcoming conferences available to Governing Council members. Members were asked to notify Viviana Porras of any conferences they plan to attend so that travel arrangements can be coordinated accordingly.

VI. Director’s/Dean of Students Report:

Marlene Parra-Padron, Interim Director, presented the Director’s Report and welcomed any questions from the Governing Council Members. *(Please see the attached Director’s Report.)*

Violeta Paxton, Dean of Students, presented the Dean of Students Report and welcomed any questions from the Governing Council Members. *(Please see the attached Dean of Students Report.)*

VII. Time and Content for the Next Governing Council Meeting:

Regular Meeting – April 14, 2026, 6:00 P.M.

- Acceptance of FY25 Financial Audit Report Release
- Approval of Budget Adjustment Request – SEG Final Adjustment
- Continued MRI status updates

VIII. Board Meeting Evaluation: The Governing Council Members expressed appreciation for being kept updated and for the amount of information presented in a short period of time.

IX. Next Scheduled Meeting

Regular Meeting/April 14, 2026/DCCCHS Room #14/6:00 P.M.

X. *Adjournment:

Motion was made by Britney Valdez, Member, to ADJOURN the meeting at 7:05 p.m.; seconded by Anamaria Sandoval, Member. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.