

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

April 8, 2026

4:04 p.m.

Special Board Meeting

Deming Cesar Chavez Charter High School

Via Zoom

The Deming Cesar Chavez Charter High School Governance Council Members met in a Special Board Meeting on April 8, 2026, at 4:04 p.m. The following Governing Council members attended: Nick Perez (President), *Present*, Kerena Vazquez Levario (Vice-President), *Present*, Barbara Reedy (Secretary/Treasurer), *Present*, Britney Valdez (Member), *Present*, and AnaMaria Sandoval (Member), *Present*. Also in attendance were school staff and members of the public (see sign-in sheet).

I. Call Meeting to Order – Nick Perez, President, presiding.

A. Nick Perez, President, called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

B. Roll Call was conducted, and a quorum was established 4/5.

C. Reading of the Mission Statement.

D. *Adoption of the Agenda:

Motion was made by Barbara Reedy, Secretary/Treasurer, to ADOPT the Agenda as presented; seconded by Britney Valdez, Member. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

II. Discussion/Action Items

A. MRI Designation Options for 2026-2027SY:

Interim Director Marlene Padron presented information regarding the school's current MRI (Most Rigorous Intervention) status and options moving forward.

Key points discussed:

The school has shown significant improvement in graduation rates, increasing to approximately 62%, narrowly missing the 67% requirement to exit MRI status.

MRI status requires consideration of three options:

- Restart – closure and reopening with new leadership and at least 50% new staff
- Redesign – restructuring school systems and instructional model
- Closure – permanent closure with reassignment of students

Administration recommended the redesign option, which includes development of career pathway programs, implementation of data-driven instruction and accountability systems, increased focus on attendance, credit recovery, and interventions, expansion of work-based learning and internships, and continued use of the FISH philosophy to support school culture.

Discussion included challenges related to graduation rate calculations based on cohort tracking, the impact of students transferring with low credits, and accountability for students who leave without proper documentation.

The proposed redesign would provide students with career-ready skills, increase opportunities for internships within the community, maintain a credit recovery pathway while expanding workforce readiness, and include a one-year planning period (2026–2027) followed by implementation.

Board members expressed support for the redesign plan and discussed the importance of preparing students for careers, not only college, monitoring long-term student success, and ensuring alignment with state expectations.

It was noted that the school will have three years to demonstrate improvement under the redesign model before reevaluation by the state.

No formal action was taken.

B. Branding & Marketing of School:

Discussion included the need to rebrand the school as part of the redesign process.

Key considerations included renaming the school to reflect the new career pathway focus, enhancing marketing efforts to attract students earlier (freshman and sophomore levels), and promoting the school as a career pathway and workforce development model.

No formal action was taken.

III. *Adjournment:

Motion was made by Barbara Reedy, Secretary/Treasurer, to ADJOURN the meeting at 4:57 p.m.; seconded by Kerena Vazquez Levario, Vice-President. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.