



DEMING CESAR CHAVEZ CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

Governing Council Regular Meeting Minutes Tuesday, August 11, 2026 6:02 p.m. DCCCHS Room #14

I. Call Meeting to Order

A. Pledge of Allegiance

The regular meeting of the Deming Cesar Chavez Charter High School Governing Council was called to order at approximately 6:02 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

B. Roll Call

Roll call was conducted. All five Governing Council members were present, establishing a quorum 5/5.

Members Present:

Nick Perez, President

Kerena Vazquez Levario, Vice-President

Barbara Reedy, Secretary/Treasurer

Britney Valdez, Member

Anamaria Sandoval, Member

C. Reading of Mission Statement

The DCCCHS mission statement was read.

D. Adoption of Agenda

**Motion was made by Kerena Vazquez Levario, Vice-President, to ADOPT the Agenda as presented; seconded by Britney Valdez, Member.
MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**

E. Meeting Minutes Review/Approval for July 14, 2026

A motion was initially made to approve the July 14, 2026 Governing Council meeting minutes. Later in the meeting, while reviewing the GRADS Budget Adjustment Request, the Council identified an incorrect amount listed in Section G. The GRADS amount should have reflected \$18,000. The Council returned to the July minutes and approved them with the correction to Section G.

**Motion was made by Kerena Vazquez Levario, Vice-President, to APPROVE the July 14, 2026, meeting minutes with the correction presented; seconded by Britney Valdez, Member.
MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**



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II. Public Comment (Limited Public Forum)

There was no public comment.

III. Student Equity Council Report

Marlene Parra-Padron, Director, reported that students had begun meeting and would begin providing monthly reports to the Governing Council. Beginning with the next meeting, students will have an opportunity to provide the Council with their perspective regarding activities, experiences, and issues occurring within the school.

IV. Director/Dean of Students Report

Director Report

Student Enrollment

Marlene Parra-Padron, Director, reported that enrollment had reached 126 students, with approximately five additional applications pending. Enrollment was lower than projected; however, administration noted that lower enrollment is also being experienced elsewhere in the state and district. Recruitment efforts will continue with the goal of increasing enrollment by the 40th-day count. The school's enrollment projection submitted to the State was approximately 159 students. The Council also discussed the impact of virtual schools on enrollment throughout the state.

MRI Update

Marlene Parra-Padron, Director, reported that the school's MRI application had been officially approved and that the school anticipated receiving the associated funding.

Staffing

Teaching positions were reported as filled. The school continues working to address the Special Education Facilitator position following the retirement of the previous facilitator. In the interim, the school is working with a special education provider to ensure that IEP and related special education services continue. Director Parra-Padron also reported that the first weeks of school had gone well and that students and staff were responding positively to the new school year.

School Redesign and Career Pathways

Administration continues moving forward with the school redesign initiative. Next steps include establishing a committee to assist with redesign-related decisions. Director Parra-Padron has begun meeting with community and state partners regarding funding and support for career pathways. A new \$135,000 grant opportunity related to innovative CTE and career pathway programming was discussed, and administration plans to apply. The school is also exploring paid internships, apprenticeships, certifications, workforce experiences, and career assessments to help connect students with appropriate career pathways.



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Dean of Students Report

Violeta Paxton, Dean of Students, reported that the school began classes during the week of July 27–30, 2026, with an attendance rate of 93.16%. Emergency procedure drills are required weekly during the first month of school, and the first fire drill was conducted on July 30, 2026. An Open House/Orientation was held prior to the beginning of school from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., with 58 families attending. Mrs. Parra-Padron provided families with information regarding the school's MRI status, and Ms. Paxton reviewed the behavior agreement and other pertinent information. Ms. Paxton reported that family participation represented positive growth compared with previous years.

V. Committee Reports – Audit, Finance, School Planning/Academic, Equity Council, Council Development, Marketing & Branding Committee

Audit Committee

The first Audit Committee meeting was held. The committee received positive feedback on the organization and preparation of the school's financial documentation. Chris Masters, Business Manager, advised Council Members that they may receive a Related Parties Questionnaire and a Fraud Questionnaire from the school's auditors and should complete and return the questionnaires directly to the auditors.

Finance Committee

The first monthly Finance Committee meeting was held. Barbara Reedy, Secretary/Treasurer, commented that the meeting was well organized and that the financial binders were easy to review and navigate.

Equity Council

Administration reported that additional Equity Council meetings would be held and updates would be provided to the Governing Council.

VI. Discussion/Action Items

A. Community School Food Distribution Report

Marlene Parra-Padron, Director, reported that the school did not host the previous month's food distribution. The next distribution is expected to be held at DCCCHS. Students will assist with the distribution, providing an opportunity to participate in community service and give back to the community.



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B. Approval of Agreements with Visual Edge IT & Poweron Technology Services

Chris Masters, Business Manager, provided an update regarding technology services and concerns previously discussed regarding Visual Edge IT. Poweron Technology Services has assisted the school with Microsoft licensing and internet/wireless connectivity issues and has been responsive to the school's needs. The proposed agreement would run through the fiscal year, potentially beginning September 1 and continuing through June 30. The vendor has applicable cooperative/state agreements, eliminating the need for a separate competitive bid process. The existing Visual Edge IT agreement was scheduled to expire at the end of the month.

Motion was made by Kerena Vazquez Levario, Vice-President, to APPROVE the Agreements with Poweron Technology Services; seconded by Anamaria Sandoval, Member.

MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

C. Approval of Psychological Services

Chris Masters, Business Manager, reported that an additional proposal/vendor was still needed. A motion was made to table the psychological services item until the necessary information could be obtained. The item was tabled.

Motion was made by Kerena Vazquez Levario, Vice-President, to TABLE the approval of Psychological Services; seconded by Britney Valdez, Member.

MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

D. Approval of Lease Agreement with His Kidz Learning Center

Chris Masters, Business Manager, presented the proposed renewal of the lease agreement with His Kidz Learning Center for a three-year term. There is no cash lease payment between the parties. In exchange, DCCCHS students who have children may access childcare services, and students interested in an early childhood education career pathway may have access to apprenticeship opportunities.

Motion was made by Britney Valdez, Member, to APPROVE the Three-Year Lease Agreement with His Kidz Learning Center; seconded by Kerena Vazquez Levario, Vice-President.

MOTION CARRIED 5-0.



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E. Approval of Budget Adjustment Request 042-006-2627-001-IB (GRADS \$18,000.00)

Chris Masters, Business Manager, presented the GRADS Budget Adjustment Request in the amount of \$18,000. The award includes \$1,000 for supplies, \$4,000 for the GRADS instructor stipend, and \$13,000 for contractual services and program-related expenses, including transportation, field trips, training, and other activities. During discussion, the Council identified a discrepancy in the July 14, 2026 minutes. Mr. Masters clarified that the GRADS award was \$18,000 and that the lower amount previously reflected in the minutes was incorrect. The Council returned to the prior-minutes agenda item and approved the July minutes with the correction.

Motion was made by Kerena Vazquez Levario, Vice-President, to APPROVE the Budget Adjustment Request 042-006-2627-001-IB GRADS for \$18,000.00; seconded by Britney Valdez, Member.

MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

VII. Time and Content for Next Governing Council Meeting

Regular Meeting – September 8, 2026, 6:00 P.M.

- Psychological Services Agreement
- Additional school updates

VIII. Board Meeting Evaluation

The Governing Council Members commented that the meeting was very informative and that a great deal of valuable information was shared. Members expressed that it was a good and productive meeting and appreciated the updates and information provided.

IX. Next Scheduled Meetings

Regular Meeting – September 8, 2026 / DCCCHS Room #14 / 6:00 p.m.

X. Adjournment

Motion was made by Kerena Vazquez Levario, Vice-President, to ADJOURN the meeting at 6:53 p.m.; seconded by Britney Valdez, Member.

MOTION CARRIED 5-0.