

**JOURNAL OF THE
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
25th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL**

SPECIAL MEETING

**March 23, 2026
9:00 AM**

PRESIDING: Honorable Vince R. James, Chairperson
Honorable Germaine Simonson, Vice-Chairperson

PLACE: Navajo Division of Transportation Conference Room
Mentmore, NN (NM)

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER; ROLL CALL; INVOCATION; ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meeting called to order by Honorable Vince R. James, Chairperson at 9:17 a.m. There were four (4) members present, and two (2) members absent when Roll Call was made by Karen J. Thompson, Legislative Assistant, OLS.

Honorable Members present:

*Honorable Vince R. James (9:02 a.m.); *Honorable Helena Nez Begay (9:00 a.m.); *Honorable Dr. Andy Nez (9:16 a.m.); and *Honorable George H. Tolth (8:45 a.m.).

Honorable Members not in attendance or arrived after the roll call was taken:

Honorable Germaine Simonson (9:05 a.m. via zoom; however, did not answer roll call); and Honorable Curtis Yanito (9:24 a.m.)

➤ Honorable Vince R. James stated the Invocation was provided early this morning.

2. RECOGNIZE GUESTS AND VISITING OFFICIALS

➤ Recognition of all committee members, staff, guests, and zoom participants.

➤ Consult the Sign-In Sheets for Committee Members and Visiting Guests of the Health, Education and Human Services Committee.

3. REVIEW AND ADOPT THE AGENDA

The Proposed Agenda for March 23, 2026, has been read into record by Angelita Benally, Legislative Advisor/OLS.

Motion by: Honorable George H. Tolth
Second by: Honorable Helena Nez Begay
Vote: 03 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: HNB/AN/GHT/;
Nays: None; Not voting: VRJ/GS/CY)

4. REVIEW AND ADOPT THE JOURNAL(S) : *None*

5. REPORT(S) :

- Honorable Vince R. James requested to hear report 5(B) before 5(A) or until the presenter is available.

A. Report: Navajo Nation Office of the Controller

- DoDE Program Budget allocated expenditures.
- Staff Purchase Card authorized and unauthorized charges for FY26

Presenters: Sean McCabe, Navajo Nation Controller

Motion by: Honorable Helena Nez Begay
Second by: Honorable Curtis Yanito
Vote: 01 in favor; 04 opposed; (Yeas: GS; Nays: HNB/AN/
GHT/CY; Not voting: VRJ)

B. Report: Navajo Nation Board of Education Department of Diné Education

- NNBOE Meeting scheduled on March 16, 2026
- NNBOE Plan of Operation Compliance.
 - Meeting Notices
 - Quorum
- NNBOE Resolution(s) considered during the March 16, 2026 meeting.
- Technical and Legal Advisers to NNBOE during the March 16, 2026 schedule meeting.

Presenters: Navajo Nation Board of Education

Nadine M. Chatto, President Eastern Agency
Freda Nells, Vice President Northern Agency
Sharon A. Todacheenie Ft. Defiance Agency

Eugene Bedonie	Western Agency
Joleen M. Tapaha	Chinle Agency
Vacant	Teacher
	Representative
Vacant	Administrator
	Representative
Vacant	Parent
	Representative
Vacant	Traditional Navajo
	Culture
Vacant	Traditional Navajo
	Culture
Vacant	Parent
	Representative

Department of Education

Dr. Shayla Yellowhair, Delegated Acting
Superintendent: DoDE

Department of Justice

Brenda Anderson, Tribal Court Advocate, Navajo
Department of Justice
Marissa R. Sayetsitty, Attorney, Navajo
Department of Justice

- The Health, Education and Human Service Committee took a recess for five (5) minutes or until the required information or actions have been addressed or completed.
- The committee reconvened at 10:33 a.m. with six (6) members present. Members present included Honorable Helena Nez Begay, Honorable Vince R. James, Honorable Dr. Andy Nez, Honorable Germaine Simonson (via telecommunications), Honorable George H. Tolth and Honorable Curtis Yanito.

Motion by: Honorable George H. Tolth
Second by: Honorable Curtis Yanito
Vote: 02 in favor; 03 opposed; (Yeas: GHT/CY; Nays: HNB/AN/GS; Not voting: VRJ)

6. OLD BUSINESS: *None*

7. NEW BUSINESS: *None*

8. CLOSE OF MEETING; ANNOUNCEMENTS; ADJOURNMENT NEXT MEETING(S) / TRAVEL:

- Monday, March 23, 2026 11:00 am HEHSC Regular Meeting;
(Navajo IHS; Navajo 638
Administrators; NDOH) NDOT
Conference Room(s),
- Monday, March 30, 2026 9:00 am HEHSC Leadership Meeting
with Navajo Veterans
Administration Advisory
Council, Budget and Finance
Conference Room, Window
Rock, NN (AZ)
- Monday, April 13, 2026 10:00 am HEHSC Regular Meeting;
Budget & Finance
Conference Room, Window
Rock, NN, (AZ).
- Monday, April 20, 2026 10:00 am HEHSC Regular Meeting;
Budget & Finance
Conference Room, Window
Rock, NN, (AZ)

Honorable Curtis Yanito motioned there was no further business,
adjourned at 12:00 p.m.; Seconded by Honorable George H. Tolth,
with a vote of 05 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: HNB/AN/GS/GHT/CY;
Nays: None; Not voting: VRJ)