

RESOLUTION OF THE  
NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE OF THE  
NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

23<sup>RD</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - FIRST YEAR, 2015

AN ACTION

RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES AND  
NAABIK'ÍYÁTI'; CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF JOHNSON DENNISON TO  
THE DINÉ COLLEGE BOARD OF REGENTS FOR A TERM ENDING IN OCTOBER  
2019

SECTION ONE. FINDINGS

- A. Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 401(C)(3) the Health, Education and Human Services Committee has oversight of the Navajo Nation Board of Education, and colleges within the Navajo Nation, and has the authority to review and recommend resolutions relating to education in accordance with 2 N.N.C. § 401(B)(6)(a).
- B. Pursuant to 10 N.N.C. § 2003(A) the full authority and control over Diné College, and responsibility for accomplishment of its purposes, is delegated to a Board of Regents.
- C. Pursuant to 10 N.N.C. § 2003(B) the Board of Regents shall consist of eight members, including the Chairperson of the Health, Education and Human Services Committee (Education Committee) or the committee's designee, the Navajo Nation Superintendent of Schools, and the President of the Diné College Student Body who shall be full official members.
- D. Five shall be enrolled members of the Navajo Nation and subject to confirmation and removal by the Government Services Committee [Naabik'íyáti' Committee] of the Navajo Nation Council to each of the five agencies of the Navajo Nation. 10 N.N.C. § 2003(B).
- E. In the event the Naabik'íyáti' Committee within 30 days declines or fails for any reason to pass a resolution confirming an appointment made by the President, the appointee shall not sit as a Regent and the President shall submit an alternative appointee within two weeks of the Naabik'íyáti' Committee action declining to confirm the

appointment, or the expiration of the 30 day period for confirmation. 10 N.N.C. § 2003(B).

- F. Johnson Dennison applied for the position of Chinle Agency representative to the Diné College Board of Regents. See Letter of Interest and Resumé attached as Exhibit A.
- G. The President of the Navajo Nation has appointed Johnson Dennison to the Diné College Board of Regents as the Chinle Agency representative. See Appointment Letter attached as Exhibit B.
- H. All appointed members of the Board of Regents must meet the following qualifications: (a) Must maintain continuous residence and voter registration within a chapter within the Agency of the Navajo Nation which they are appointed to represent, during the period of their term; and (b) Must be at least 18 years of age at the time of the appointment; and (c) Must not be an employee of the Diné College; and (d) Must not have a conflict of interest arising from any Navajo Nation, state, or federal laws regarding his or her appointment; and (e) Must not have been convicted of a felony within the five years preceding the date of appointment. 10 N.N.C. § 2003(C). See Affidavit attached as Exhibit C.
- I. Appointed members shall serve six year terms, and the terms shall be staggered in accordance with the provisions of 10 N.N.C. § 2004(B).
- J. Mr. Dennison is filling the position of a term not fully carried out by his predecessor. As the terms are staggered, in accordance with 10 N.N.C. § 2004(B), Mr. Dennison will serve a four-year term per the President's appointment letter ending in October 2019 to fill the open vacancy and maintain the staggered terms.

**SECTION TWO. CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF JOHNSON DENNISON TO THE DINÉ COLLEGE BOARD OF REGENTS FOR A TERM ENDING IN OCTOBER 2019**

The Navajo Nation hereby finds that Johnson Dennison meets the qualifications set forth in 10 N.N.C. § 2003(C) and confirms the appointment of Johnson Dennison to serve on the Diné College Board of Regents as a representative of the Chinle Agency for a term of four years in accordance with staggered terms set forth in 10 N.N.C. § 2004(B).

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Naabik'iyáti' Committee of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Navajo Nation Council at a duly called meeting in Window Rock, Navajo Nation (Arizona), at which a quorum was present and that the same was passed by a vote of 16 in favor and 0 opposed, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2015.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "LoRenzo C. Bates". The signature is stylized with large, sweeping loops and a prominent "L" at the beginning.

LoRenzo C. Bates, Chairperson  
Naabik'iyáti' Committee

Motion : Honorable Jonathan L. Hale  
Second : Honorable Alton Joe Shepherd



PO Box  
Chinle, Arizona 86503

June 29, 2015

Honorable Russell Begaye, President of Navajo Nation  
Office of the President and Vice President  
Navajo Nation  
PO Box 7440  
Window Rock, Arizona 86515-7440

Dear Honorable Russell Begay, President of Navajo Nation,

I am writing to express interest in becoming a member of Diné College's Board of Regents. I seek to represent Chinle Agency.

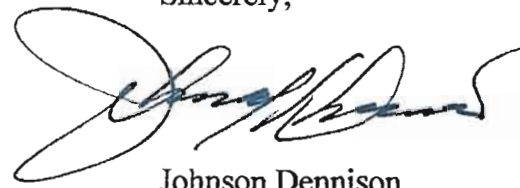
I believe that I am well qualified for the job. I have more than two decades of experience in higher education as a Dean of Instruction, cultural consultant, and instructor, most of which took place at Diné College (formerly Navajo Community College). I have more than three decades of experience in K-12 schools, as a school principal and teacher. Most of this experience took place in community-controlled, contract schools (Rough Rock and Rock Point); some took place at a public school district (Red Mesa USD). I have worked as a cultural consultant with the Indian Health Service for about fifteen years. In addition, I have been a traditional practitioner since 1974.

My resume is attached.

Most important, I am diligent, patient, balanced, and honest. I have many years of successful experience on the Navajo Nation building coalitions, leading initiatives, and solving program development challenges in complex cross-cultural, institutional contexts. I believe that these skills are much needed at Diné College, and that I can make a difference for that institution's stakeholders and for the Navajo Nation as a whole.

If you require additional information do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

 06/29/2015  
Johnson Dennison

*Résumé*  
*Johnson Dennison, MA*

*PO BOX        Chinle, AZ 86503*  
*Phone #*

*Clan Identification: Tábaqahí ♦ Tótsohnii ♦ Naakaii Dine'é ♦ Tó'áhaní*

***Education:***

- 1973 BA in Education from the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131
- 1978 MA in Educational Administration from the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131

***Experiences:***

- 1999 – 2014: Adjunct Faculty: Diné College; Tsaile, AZ. I have been teaching Diné Educational Philosophy every fall semesters for the Teacher Education Program. I also taught School Law for four years to the senior college students.
- 2013: I taught Navajo Philosophy at the Navajo Technical University; Crownpoint, New Mexico during a fall semester of 2013.
- 2000 – 2011: Coordinator of the Office of Native Medicine; Chinle Comprehensive Health Care Facility; Chinle, AZ 86547. The primary responsibilities are: To insure the patients have accessible native healing services, to provide cultural in-service trainings for the professional health care providers, and to provide leadership in cultural teaching material development, Navajo Wellness Model. Assisting the service unit strategic plan development, Tapestry of Wellness base on the Navajo philosophy.
- 1999 – 2011: Adjunct Faculty: ASU/Diné Teacher Education Program; I've taught DEP 508, School and Community Relation, School Law, Schooling and Culture, and Theory and Practice
- 1993 – 2000; Adjunct Faculty: Navajo Community College/ Diné College. I taught Foundation of Education, Foundation of Navajo Culture, Navajo History to Present, Oral Navajo History, Diné Educational Philosophy.
- 1996 – 2000: Dean of Instruction/Student Services; Diné College; Tsaile, AZ 86556. The primary responsibilities were: As a full time Dean of Diné College, I was able to provide supervision for the Academic Division

Chairpersons and the Director of Student Services, maintaining yearly instructional department budget, implementing the Navajo philosophy into academic instructions, and to work with the fellow college administrators to insure the functions of the academic policies are in place.

- 1993 – 1996: Director of Diné Educational Philosophy; Diné College; Tsaile, AZ 86556. The primary responsibilities were: With a team of cultural specialists, I spearheaded the Navajo philosophy research project with the Navajo medicine people and elders. Following the research project, we developed methods of ways how the Navajo philosophy could be integrated into the academic instruction at college level.
- 1991 – 1993: High School Principal; Red Mesa High School; Red Mesa Unified School District; Teec Nos Pos, AZ 86514. As a HS Principal, I introduced an on site base management for the staff which is another perspective of quality management. I was responsible to supervised thirty teachers and staff, developed Navajo cultural study curriculum, maintained a HS operation budget, collaborating with the parents and communities, and done some academic counseling.
- 1983 – 1991: High School Principal; Rock Point High School; Rock Point, AZ. I was supervising an average of 30 teachers and staff. This is a school where I was involved in implementing a bilingual education for all Navajo students. The school became a model for other schools locally and nationally.
- 1979 – 1983: Elementary School Principal; Rock Point Community School; Rock point, AZ. I was responsible to plan and the operation of a school K – 8<sup>th</sup> grade. There were four hundred students. I exercised my leadership ability in curriculum development and providing an English reading program for all students learning English as their second language.
- 1973 – 1979: Elementary School Principal; Rough Rock Community School. The primary responsibility was to ensure the school received the best instruction in English as a second language. I recruited the best teachers in the country to teach K – 8<sup>th</sup> grade. I was able to reach out to the Navajo community to involve parents.
- 1995 – Present: Navajo Cultural Consultants: I've been able to serve as a cultural specialist as a consultant to colleges and universities, Peabody coal company, hospitals, schools, Navajo Nation Judicial staff, teach Navajo Fundamental law to Navajo Nation Bar Association, Navajo cultural consultant to Social Workers, and served as motivational speaker at conferences.

- **1974 – Present: Navajo Medicine Man; I am a native healing practitioner to treat patients and specialized in the Navajo Wind Way Chant, Protection Prayer, Blessing Way, and Enemy Way ceremonies.**



# THE NAVAJO NATION

RUSSELL BEGAYE PRESIDENT  
JONATHAN NEZ VICE PRESIDENT



July 23, 2015

Mr. Johnson Dennison  
P.O. Box 3663  
Chinle, AZ 86503


Dear Mr. Dennison:

We are pleased to appoint you as the Chinle Agency Regent to the Dine College Board of Regents. We are confident that you have the background, experience, and education to represent the interests of this Administration on the Board. This appointment is for the scheduled 6-year term set for October 2013 to October 2019 and is subject to confirmation by the Nabi'ki'iyati' Committee of the Navajo Nation Council.

We appreciate your desire to serve the Navajo Nation and the Navajo people. If there are any questions, please contact Mr. Robert Joe, Acting Chief of Staff at (928) 551-2450.

Respectfully,

THE NAVAJO NATION

  
Russell Begaye, *President*

  
Jonathan Nez, *Vice-President*

Xc: Robert Joe, Acting Chief of Staff  
Mr. Johnson Dennison, Presidential Appointee, Dine' College Board of Regents





Johnson Dennison  
Po Box  
Chinle, AZ 86503


July 21, 2015


To: Lorenzo Bates Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council  
Office of the Speaker, Window Rock, AZ

I, Johnson Dennison, appointee of the Board Of Regents for Dine College, am officially registered to vote with Round Rock Chapter within the Chinle Agency. I have exercised my right to vote for over 50 years with my chapter.

I have never been convicted of any type of felony convictions in my life time. I do not smoke or consume any type of alcoholic beverage.

Sincerely,

  
Johnson Dennison  
Census #

  
Notary Public

Signature verification for  
Johnson Dennison only.

