

RESOLUTION OF THE
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
of the 24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - First Year, 2019

AN ACTION

RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES; CONFIRMING
THE APPOINTMENT OF JOAN GRAY TO THE NAVAJO NATION BOARD OF
EDUCATION

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council with the purpose of providing legislative oversight on matters involving health, social service, education, general government services and human services. 2 N.N.C. §§ 400 (A), (C) (1).
- B. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee serves as oversight for the Navajo Nation Board of Education. 2 N.N.C. § 401(C) (3).
- C. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee has authority to confirm appointments to the Board. 10 N.N.C. § 106(B) (3).

SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

- A. The Navajo Nation Board of Education consists of eleven (11) members. Five (5) members are elected at-large, one from each of the five (5) agencies. Six (6) members are appointed positions. 10 N.N.C. §106(B).
- B. Regarding appointments to the Navajo Nation Board of Education, the law provides, "[s]ix Board members shall be appointed to six year terms by the President of the Navajo Nation and confirmed by the [Health, Education and Human Services] Committee of the Navajo Nation Council. These members will be appointed on order to ensure that a variety of experience and knowledge is present on the Board." 10 N.N.C. § 106 (B) (3).

- C. Qualifications for the six appointed positions to the Navajo Nation Board of Education are stated as follows - two appointed Board members will be individuals who are recognized for their knowledge of traditional Navajo culture; 10 N.N.C. § 106(C)(1)(a); one appointed Board member will be a school administrator working on the Navajo Nation; 10 N.N.C. § 106(C)(1)(b); two appointed Board member will be parents of at least one child enrolled in a Kindergarten, elementary, or secondary program on the Navajo Nation; 10 N.N.C. § 106(C)(1)(c); and, one appointed Board member will be a teacher employed in a Bureau of Indian Affairs funded or state public school operating on the Navajo Nation; 10 N.N.C. § 106(C)(1)(d).
- D. Pursuant to appointment provisions applicable to the Navajo Nation Board of Education, the Navajo Nation President has appointed Joan Gray, as the parent representative. Ms. Gray's letter of appointment is attached as **Exhibit A** and her qualifications and interests are provided in **Exhibit B**.

SECTION THREE. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT

The Health, Education and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby confirms the Navajo Nation President's appointment of Joan Gray, to the Navajo Nation Board of Education. Ms. Gray shall serve in the parent representative position on the Board, as provided in 10 N.N.C. § 106(C)(1)(c). Ms. Gray shall serve a term of six (6) years from the date of confirmation, consistent with 10 N.N.C. § 106(B).

CERTIFICATION

I, hereby, certify that the following resolution was duly considered by the Health, Education and Human Services Committee of the 24th Navajo Nation Council at a duly called meeting at Window Rock, (Navajo Nation) Arizona, at which quorum was present and that same was passed by a vote of 5 in favor, 0 opposed, on this 25th day of November 2019.



Carl R. Slater, Vice Chairperson, Pro Tem
Health, Education and Human Services Committee of
the 24th Navajo Nation Council

Motion: Honorable Paul Begay, Jr.
Second: Honorable Pernell Halona

THE NAVAJO NATION

JONATHAN NEZ | PRESIDENT MYRON LIZER | VICE PRESIDENT



October 18, 2019

Joan Benally
PO Box

Dear Ms. Benally,

Thank you for your interest in the Navajo Nation Board of Education. We appreciate you being available for an interview to discuss your background and qualifications for appointment. Based on our discussion with you, it is our pleasure to appoint you to the Board of Education as the parent member of the Board. Your dedication to education of our young people align with our policy of supporting our youth.

The Navajo Nation Council's Health, Education, and Human Services Committee will consider confirming your appointment. With the Committee's positive action your term will be six years. Should you have any questions please contact Chris Bahe, Executive Staff Assistant, Office of the President and Vice President, at 928-871-7000.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jonathan Nez".

Jonathan Nez, President
The Navajo Nation

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Myron Lizer".

Myron Lizer, Vice President
The Navajo Nation



Re: The Navajo Board of Education, NBOE

Date: August 10, 2019

To: Yvonne Kee-Billison,

I am applying for one of the vacant position with the Navajo Board of Education that is currently being advertise for a Parent representative. I have reviewed some of the qualifications and I feel that I pose a great candidate for the current position selected.

My name is Joan Benally and I am currently a teacher at Kayenta Boarding School as a 7th and 8th grade Social Studies. I have worked here for ten years and during my time of employment. During the time of my employment, I was assign to a variety of grade levels from K-8th grade and different departments including Dine Studies, Computer Lab, PE but most importantly, reading intervention. Being assigned to a variety of educational experiences has instilled in me strengthen of new learning opportunity and professional growth.

As an involved parent at Kayenta Unified School District for a span of 20 years to present. I was able to view the educational system as a parent first. From the first days of school to high school graduations, the educational gap seem to be very repetitive of lack of parent involvement, low-test scores, absentees, bullying among colleagues, and non-native administrators and superintendents. Some of the educational foundation system has failed tremendously leaving our Dine students with an increasing rate of low academic rates. Many of our Dine children have turned to drugs and alcohol, some coming from displace homes of single parents, verbal, physical and sexual abuse have now destroyed our younger generation, Our future.

As a parent, viewing the events occur on our Dine Nation, we need to pull together for the best interest of our children. How can we get ahold of our educational systems to set a foundation of success for our children? Do we as a nation continue to build detention centers for our children or do we begin intervention through counselling for students to being recovery, while challenging and provide opportunities for students that are above grade level? Why aren't our members of the board at local, Navajo Nation and state level not addressing these issues?

Therefore, as a parent and grandparent, I feel that I am a positive contributing factor to help assist and address some of these issues and begin to resolve some of the displacements in our education system across the Dine Nation one-step at a time.

"Go and Tell Our Navajo People That Education Is The Ladder"

Chief Manuelito

Thank you,

Joan Benally
Parent

Joan Ann Gray
PO Box
Kayenta, AZ 86033

Navajo Board of Education Opportunity

Navajo Board of Education
Appointed Parent Representative
Window Rock, AZ 86515

Personal Philosophy

"Preparing Young Minds to Become Successful Citizens"

Qualifications

- K-8 Teacher Certification
- K-3 Early Childhood Endorsement
- Social Studies Endorsement
- Science Endorsement
- Emergency Management
Institute FEMA

Education

Currently Active
Northern Arizona University
Continuing Master's Program

Fall 2006-Fall 2007
Northern Arizona University
Bachelors in Education

Currently Active
Candidacy for National Board of Education

Northland Pioneer College
Associate of Arts in Elementary
Fall 2004-Summer 2006

Personal References

Blane Baker
Assistance Principal
Monument Valley HS
Kayenta, AZ 86033
928-697-2105

Pamela Jennings
Special Education Teacher, KBS
PO Box 2179
Kayenta, AZ 86033 – 928-814-1197

Felicia Parrish
Acting Principal, KBS
PO Box 1261
Kayenta, AZ 86033
928-209-1378

Work History/Reference

Currently:

Social Studies Teacher

40 hours per week; 180 days

Kayenta, Boarding School

Mrs. Felicia Parrish, Acting Principal

Social Studies 7th and 8th Grade

- July 29, 201-2020
- Student Council Sponsor
- 8th Grade Sponsor

Social Studies Teacher

40 hours per week; 180 days

Kayenta, Boarding School

Mr. James Brown, Principal

Social Studies 7th and 8th Grade

- July 29, 2018-2019
- Student Council Sponsor

Education Technician (**Detailed to Classroom**)

40 hours per week; 180 days

Kayenta Boarding School

Mr. James Brown, Principal

928-697-3439

- Computer Class K-8; 07-26-2017- 05-20-2018
- Reading Intervention; 07-20-2016-17

Education Technician (**Detailed to Classroom**)

40 hours per week; 180 days

Kayenta Boarding School

Veronica Klain, Principal

Donald Cofflan, Principal

- 1st Grade self-contain; 07-30-2015-16
- 1st Grade self-contain; 07-28-2014-15

Education Technician (**Detailed to Classroom**)

40 hours per week; 180 days

Kayenta Community School

Velma Eisenburger, Principal

- 2nd Grade self-contain; 07-30-2013-14
- 4th Grade self-contain; 07-30-2012-13
- 7th Grade Reading; 07-27-2011-12
- 8th Grade Reading; 07-28-2010-11

Duties and Accomplishments

As an Education Technician, I assisted the teacher with student services and provided support to the teacher as needed. However, with the teacher shortage, I was detailed into different grades ranging from K-8 to provide instruction at the professional level. As a detailed technician, I had to provide an organizational structure where the students were in an educational and learning environment. I was also responsible for planning, implementing and evaluating instructional activities under guidelines of the State Standards and now the Common Core. Kayenta Boarding School offers many Professional Developments which are of high importance; therefore I take it upon myself to make my attendance a priority.

Due to the different needs and accommodations of student, I utilize different approaches for each level to engage students ranging from one on one, gallery walk, pair share, peer teaching and I Do, We do, You Do strategies. Most importantly, I feel that students are able to put pieces together through hands on and personal experiences. Through most of the lessons, I feel very strongly about incorporating technology in our educational setting. With the opportunity I am given by my respectful superiors, I am able to see the success and gains of each individual student using the NWEA BOY results as they promote to the next grade. With continuous self-reflection, I am also learning new skills to accommodate all my students at different level.

Professional Development Training

- | | |
|---|--|
| • SCAN | Marzano's Six Step Process
(Ester Macias) |
| • K12 Priority Standard (CCSS) | • Problem of Practice (POP0 |
| • Foundations of Assessment Design
(Solution Tree) | • Student Engagement Strategies |
| • "My Math" McGraw Hill | • Depth of Knowledge (DOK) |
| • Native Star School Improvement | • Instructional Alignment |
| • Instructional Core (Richard Elmore) | • Questioning Strategies |
| • RTI- Response To Intervention
Plan (Tom Hierck) | • Emergency Management
Institute FEMA |
| • ELA & Math Curriculum | |
| • Levels of Engagement and
Framework | |

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
Regular Meeting
November 25, 2019

Roll Call
Vote Tally Sheet

LEGISLATION NO. 0346-19

AN ACTION RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES; CONFIRMING
THE APPOINTMENT OF JOAN BENALLY TO THE NAVAJO NATION BOARD OF EDUCATION

(Note: Eligible for Committee Action November 25, 2019)

Sponsor: Honorable Daniel E. Tso;

Co-Sponsors: Honorable Pernell Halona; Honorable Edison J. Wauneka;

November 25, 2019 - Amendment One (1) Motion

Motion by: Honorable Pernell Halona

Seconded by: Honorable Paul Begay, Jr.

Vote: 5 in favor; 0 Opposed; Chairperson Not Voting

Yeas: all present

Nays: None

Absent (excused): all present

November 25, 2019 - Main Motion

Motion by: Honorable Paul Begay, Jr.

Seconded by: Honorable Pernell Halona

Vote: 5 in favor; 0 Opposed; Vice-Chairperson Not Voting


Yeas: all present

Nays: None

Absent (excused): all present



Carl Roessel Slater, Vice-Chairperson
Health, Education and Human Services Committee



Beverly Martinez, Legislative Advisor
Health, Education and Human Services Committee