

Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Friday, May 1, 2026

9:03am – 9:57am

Conference Room 55321

Attendees: Allison Cahoon, Brittany Nichols, Dr. Crystal Blake, Diedra Watson, Dr. Jennifer Thompson, Dr. Julius Manz, Dr. Kelley Ryals, Keyshawn Yazzie, Linda Parks, Ruby Woodard, Sarah Jung, and Sherry Paxson

I. Introductions

- Dr. Manz welcomed everyone.
- Everyone introduced themselves. There are diverse members on the Advisory Board.

II. Upcoming

- The Pinning Ceremony is Friday, May 15th at 6pm in the Zia.
- Graduation is Saturday, May 16th at 9am in the Graduation Plaza.

III. Program Highlights

- Class of 2026
 - Has 12 students out of 12.
 - Written and Clinical LA Boards – 83% passed Written and 100% passed Clinical. Students are encouraged to take the Written.
 - Clinical Boards – 100% passed with an average of 93%, placing them in the first quintile.
 - NBDHE – Students will take soon, scheduled for April-May. $\frac{3}{4}$ have taken and passed.
 - Keyshawn shared his experiences with the program.
- Class of 2027
 - Has 12 students out of 12.
 - Juniors passed Clinical Competencies.
 - The summer semester is May 26th to July 2nd.
 - Summer Requirements – Finding moderate and difficult patients and rolling them over to the Fall semester.
 - Sarah shared her experiences with the program.
- Student American Dental Hygienists' Association (SADHA) Activities
 - Students participated in GKAS. Four students participated too.
 - SADHA hosted a Continuing Education Fundraiser Series on April 17th-18th and April 25th that raised \$4,960. Thank you for the community support!
 - SADHA is planning to attend NM MOM on November 6-7, 2026 in Albuquerque.
- Class of 2028
 - 32 applications were received.

IV. Future

- Program Revision for 2026-2027
 - The Dental Hygiene curriculum will transition to common course numbering, starting this Summer 2026.
- PTK Induction Ceremony
 - 11 students were honored at the PTK Induction Ceremony, 6 of them were Dental Hygiene students.

- Online Application
 - The Dental Hygiene Program transitioned to an online application this year. Overall, the process was good.
- Coca-Cola Scholarship
 - Danielle McQuitty was honored in Sante Fe on her nomination for the Coca-Cola Scholarship.
- Employment Opportunities
 - Diedra shared that Pinon Hills Dental is looking to hire a permanent sub. Brittany will share this information with the students.
- Interprofessional Development
 - The junior students meet with OTA students to measure strengths.
 - The senior students do wheelchair transfer.
- Interested Students
 - HOSA – Talk with students in high school about Dental Hygiene.
 - SJC HS – Students came and observed in the Clinic.
 - FYEX – Shared information with the students.
 - FMS – Grant for Health Care in the old Swinburn Building.
- Graduates
 - 80%-90% stay here. Some move to bigger cities.
- Board Rules from Dr. Thompson
 - CE Requirements
 - Maximum number of credits is 50 in person.
 - New Ethics requirement, but won't go into effect until 2027 renewal.
 - Rules are in effect, but not penalizing for this renewal.
 - Radiology Exam
 - Option #1 – Take the DANB.
 - Option #2 – Take a Board Approved Program with Alternative Exam. Must be submitted to the Board for approval.
- Oral Preventive Assistants (OPA)
 - Dr. Ryals mentioned OPA is on the agenda for the June 5th meeting. Wondered if we support or not. Dr. Manz was noncommittal.

V. Conclusion

- The members were thanked for attending today's meeting. We appreciate their time, input, guidance, and support of our Program.

Submitted By: Ruby Woodard