



MONTANA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON INDIAN EDUCATION
ADVISORY TO THE BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION AND
SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education

October 4, 2023

Agenda – Working Session

Cogswell Building, 1400 Broadway, Helena

Rooms 207-209

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID 822 2951 6719

Password 305067

Dial by Telephone 646 558 8656

Mission: To provide for more effective and meaningful participation by Indian people in planning, implementation, and administration of relevant educational services and programs under the authority of local school boards.

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|---|------------|
| Item 1: Call to order: | 9:00 a.m. |
| ❖ Welcome – Jordann Forster, Chairperson | |
| ❖ Pledge of Allegiance | |
| ❖ Roll Call | |
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| Item 2: Approval of Minutes | 9:15 a.m. |
| ❖ August 2, 2023, Minutes | |
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| Item 3: Ex-officio Member Reports/Indian Education Unit Reports/
Informational Presentations | 9:25 p.m. |
| ❖ Montana University System – Jeannie Origbo | |
| ❖ Indian Education for All – Zach Hawkins and Mike Jetty | |
| ❖ Early Warning System – Robin Clausen | |
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| Item 4: Chairperson Report/Community Updates and Connections | 10:00 a.m. |
| ❖ Jordann Lankford Forster | |
| ❖ Board Members | |
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| Item 5: Old Business | 10:30 a.m. |
| ❖ Meeting Schedule and Budget 2024 | |
| ❖ Website Update | |
| ❖ NEA Letter | |

Break (as needed)

Lunch is scheduled for noon

Item 6: New Business

12:45 p.m.

- ❖ MACIE Position Statements
- ❖ MACIE goals

Item 7: Public comment

2:45 p.m.

This is an opportunity for any member of the audience to bring to the attention of the Council questions or relevant comments concerning matters not on the agenda. Please note the Council is bound by ethical practice, bylaws, and Montana statutes. The Council may not take any action on matters brought to the attention of the Council during the public comment portion of the meeting unless specific notice of that matter is included in a properly noticed agenda. Therefore, in the Open Agenda portion of the meeting, the Council will not discuss or take any action, but may refer a matter presented to a future agenda. The following criteria exist for the public comments.

- The public may not discuss items on the current agenda at this time.
- The public may only discuss matters within jurisdiction of the Council.
- No action may be taken on a matter raised during the open agenda.
- The public may not comment in a boisterous, disorderly, hostile, or aggressive manner.
- Each member of the public may address the Council once.

Item 7: Adjournment

3:00 p.m.

Times are approximate.

The next meeting is November 1, via Zoom.



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**MACIE AGENDA
WORKING SESSION
ITEM 2
APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- ❖ Handout 2.1
 - Draft August 2, 2023, minutes



MONTANA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON INDIAN EDUCATION
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 SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

MACIE Meeting
 August 2, 2023
 Minutes - Draft

Members Present

Matthew Bell (alternate)	Office of Public Instruction
Dawn Bishop-Moore	Indian Impact Schools of Montana
Norma Bixby	Northern Cheyenne Tribe
Levi Black Eagle	Crow Tribe
Derek Calvert (alternate)	Montana University System
Dugan Coburn	Urban – Great Falls
Paul Finnicum	MTSBA Indian School Board Caucus
Jordann Forster	Montana Federation of Public Employees
Megan Gourneau	Fort Peck Tribes
Iris Kill Eagle	Little Shell Tribe
Calli Nicholson Nicholson	Billings Public Schools
Cory Sangrey-Billy	Tribal Colleges

Guests

Mark Bramer	Yellowstone Gateway Museum
Korinne Casarella	Yellowstone Gateway Museum
Dylan Klapmeier	Office of the Governor
Morgan Murakami	Self

Members Absent

Rodney Bird	Bureau of Indian Education
Marcy Cobell	Montana Indian Education Association
Michelle Crazy	Fort Belknap Tribes
Michael Dolson	Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes
Harold Dusty Bull	Blackfeet Tribe
Hilary Gourneau	Tribal Head Start
Melissa Hammett	Urban – Missoula
Susie Hedalen	Board of Public Education
Jeremy MacDonald	School Administrators of Montana
Angela McLean	Montana University System
John Stiffarm	Class 7
Don Wetzel	Office of Public Instruction

Office of Public Instruction/ Board of Public
 Education

Elsie Arntzen	Matthew Bell
McCall Flynn	Joan Franke
Mike Jetty	Carrie Kouba
Rob Stutz	

The Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education (MACIE) meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jordann Forster at 9:05 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said, an opening greeting by Dugan Coburn was given, and roll call was taken.

❖ Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the June 7, 2023, meeting were reviewed. Paul Finnicum motioned to approve the minutes as written and Dawn Bishop-Moore seconded. Passed by all.

❖ Ex-officio Reports

Superintendent's Report

Rob Stutz provided information on updates to Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) regarding the Montana Indigenous Languages Preservation (MILP) program. [Draft rules](#) have been filed at the Secretary of State's office regarding distribution of funds. There will be a public hearing on August 11. Public comments are being accepted through August 18.

Superintendent Arntzen also discussed guidance documents being drafted regarding Indian Education for All reporting regarding funding.

A budget for MACIE has been set from Office of Public Instruction (OPI) funding. It is \$10,000 for the biennium, \$5,000 for each year. There is fluidity between the years on how much of the \$10,000 may be spent. The Superintendent has requested the Board of Public Education (BPE) help with funding. She is also planning on putting a budget item in for the next legislative session to fund MACIE which would need to go from BPE.

The Superintendent believes that due to the lawsuit and updates from the legislature on school funding for Indian Education for All (IEFA), this would be a good time to review the seven essential understandings to ensure they are robust enough and how to get the information on these out to schools. Jordann Forster indicated she believes the Superintendent's suggestion that IEFA be part of the requirements for renewal of teacher licensure. The Superintendent said she also believes the leadership needs to have requirements for IEFA.

❖ Informational Presentations

Yellowstone Gateway Museum's Traveling Exhibits: Montana's Tribal Nations' Flags and Seals

Korinne Casarella presented information on the Yellowstone Gateway Museum's traveling exhibit on the flags and seals of the tribal nations of Montana. The themes will be the symbols and their meanings, flags as historic and contemporary culture, tribal sovereignty, and federal recognition and its importance. These will be throughout Park County.

Chairperson Forster asked MACIE members to get back comments and approval to [Ms. Casarella](#) on content by August 30.

Indian Education Unit Reports

❖ Tribal Student Achievement, Relations, & Resiliency Unit

Matthew Bell discussed the MILP program has changed due to legislation. There was discussion with tribes regarding tribes entering into partnerships with the school districts. There was concern about requiring this. There are also definitions of various terms.

Mr. Bell said Representative Windy Boy indicated he would be open to any comments for updating the legislation for the next session.

Chairperson Report

The webpage for MACIE is in the process of being updated. Please send as soon as possible to [Joan Franke](#) a photo, updated bio, and a one-two sentence on what MACIE means to you.

Chairperson Forster indicated she had requested \$18,500 for year but only received \$5,000 per year. This would equate to one meeting a year. Discussion was held regarding the October meeting in person. Consensus was to hold the meeting in person in October.

The position statement regarding supporting and preparing pre-service educators is a draft. Jordann indicated she will do draft position statements regarding indigenous created curriculum, support indigenous authors and novels, smudging in schools, and graduation ceremony protocols that can then be reviewed, changed as necessary, and possibly approved at the October meeting.

Norma Bixby suggested having information regarding the previous lawsuit regarding school funding reminding about the lawsuit regarding funding.

Jordann Forster provided information regarding the National Education Association (NEA) questions on a racial literacy quiz. She is concerned NEA is distributing inaccurate information regarding Indian content. She is requesting MACIE draft a letter to NEA that recommends tribal consultation concerning any curriculum they are putting out, have indigenous voices at the table, and indigenous review. Calli Nicholson motioned for Jordann to draft a letter regarding this to have MACIE members vote on and then can be sent to various organizations. Norma Bixby seconded the motion. Passed by all.

Public Comment

Morgan Murakami commented on the NEA question and MACIE's willingness to voice concern. She also asked if these meetings are open to the public as she was asked to sign off because she is not affiliated with this.

Levi Black Eagle motioned to adjourn the meeting and Calli Rusche-Nicholson seconded the motion. Passed by all. The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 4, 2023, in person (with Zoom option).



MONTANA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON INDIAN EDUCATION
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MACIE AGENDA WORKING SESSION

ITEM 4

EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS/ INDIAN EDUCATION UNIT REPORTS/ INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

- ❖ **Montana University System**
 - Handout 4.1
 - Presentation Summary

- ❖ **Indian Education for All**
 - Handout 4.2
 - Presentation Summary

- **Early Warning System**
 - Handout 4.3
 - Presentation Summary

Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education

Ex-officio and Indian Education Units Presentation Summaries

Date: October 4, 2023 Meeting

Presentation	MUS Update
Presenter	Director Jeannie Origbo
Position Title	Montana GEAR UP Director
Overview/Talking Points for Presentation	Jeannie will provide an update about College Application Weeks and the importance of FAFSA completion.
Requested Decision	N/A
Issue(s) Related to MACIE Goals See second page for list of goals	Student access to post-secondary opportunities.
Recommendation(s)	N/A
Handouts	N/A



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Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education

Ex-officio and Indian Education Units Presentation Summaries

Date: October 7, 2023 Meeting

Presentation	OPI IEFA Unit Update
Presenter	Zach Hawkins/Mike Jetty
Position Title	OPI IEFA Director/OPI IEFA Specialist
Overview/Talking Points for Presentation	<p>This presentation will cover recent and upcoming events and initiatives being planned and completed by the OPI IEFA unit. This will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of a Little Shell teaching unit • Partnering with the Nez Perce tribe and National Park Service on a Chief Joseph lesson • Lesson updates • Native Film Club update • AI Heritage Day events and activities • Tribal Flags video resources • Native American Humor lesson • IEFA Tuesdays • Website updates • Fall PD events
Requested Decision	N/A
Issue(s) Related to MACIE Goals	Culture, language, and culturally relevant curriculum
Recommendation(s)	N/A
Handouts	None



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MACIE PRESENTATION

October 4, 2023

Name and title of person presenting	Robin Clausen, PhD – Research Liaison, OPI
Contact information: phone	406-444-3793
Contact information: e-mail	Robin.clausen@mt.gov
Organization	OPI
Select one	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> New Business
Presentation title	Early Warning System
Description of presentation	<p>The presentation focuses on the evaluation of the MT Early Warning System (EWS) and the value of EWS(s) in general; whether they are provided by Infinite Campus, Power School, or the OPI. The first part of the presentation will address the processes of implementing the EWS program in Montana. This was a mixed methods study about the impact of the EWS, how it was implemented, and best practices to ensure that implementations are successful. About 1/3 of the participants that provided input into this study were from tribal schools.</p> <p>The second portion of this study focuses on the reliability and accuracy of the Montana EWS tool. The tool reliability predicts if a student will drop out and if they will graduate. In doing so, we talk about selected findings from subgroups including among native students. We plan to explore the trends among native populations both on reservation and off and whether the tool reliably enables intervention by admin and staff to ensure a student will graduate.</p>
How does this relate to the MACIE goals (next page)	<p>1. School programs targeting systemic racism, disparate discipline, student achievement, historical trauma</p> <p>Our presentation addresses efforts to promote graduation in native communities that have high rates of dropout. OPI provides an online tool that predicts the propensity of dropout for each student. This tool is used by counselors and administrators to identify and support students and target resources. It supports graduation as a measure of student achievement.</p>
Action requesting the advisory council take	<p>These findings represent interim data about all schools in the state of Montana and in selected native communities. We respectfully request a follow up presentation in Spring 2024 (15 minutes) where we explore quantitative differences between native students on reservation and off reservation. With the final findings we'll have a packet of resources available for tribal communities and among all school communities with high percentages of native students.</p>



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Handouts (send with presentation request)	None
Technology requirements	None



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MACIE AGENDA WORKING SESSION

ITEM 4

CHAIRPERSON REPORT/COMMUNITY UPDATES AND CONNECTIONS

- ❖ **Chairperson Report**
- ❖ **Board Members**



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MACIE AGENDA WORKING SESSION

ITEM 5 OLD BUSINESS

❖ Meeting Schedule and Budget 2024

- Handout 4.1
 - Meeting Schedule 2024

❖ Website Update

❖ NEA Letter



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2024 Meeting Scheduled (as decided at April, 2023, meeting)

January 3, Zoom

March 7, in person, Billings

May 1, Zoom

June 5, Zoom

August 14, in person, Billings, Wednesday before Crow Fair

October 2, in person, Helena

November 6, Zoom



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MACIE AGENDA WORKING SESSION ITEM 6 NEW BUSINESS

- ❖ **MACIE Position Statements**

- ❖ **MACIE Goals**
 - Handout 4.1
 - MACIE Goals

MACIE GOALS

1. Community, family, and parental engagement with local school system

Goal 1: MACIE will advocate for and alongside communities, families, parents, and school systems that serve NA/AI student populations with the intent of recognizing the impact of historical trauma while promoting efforts to ensure safe, secure, and stable educational environments where students and parents feel welcome and supported.

2. School programs targeting systemic racism, disparate discipline, student achievement, historical trauma

Goal 2: MACIE will encourage the adoption of school-based programming which addresses the presence of systemic racism and the associated disparate discipline of NA/AI students in public schools, with the intent of supporting efforts focused on exploring the impact these conditions have upon student achievement.

3. Culture, language, and culturally relevant curriculum

Goal 3: MACIE will act as an advocate for the meaningful integration of culture and indigenous language in Montana schools by promoting the adoption of culturally relevant curriculum and instruction in support of the expression of NA/AI student self-identity and self-actualization.

4. Equitable access to virtual teaching-learning platforms and connectivity

Goal 4: MACIE supports community programs that are focused on providing equitable access for NA/AI students to technological resources and internet connectivity within rural communities and school systems in response to the growing demand for the integration of virtual teaching and learning.



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