



MACIE MEETING  
September 11, 2019  
Helena, Montana

Members Present

Joe Arrowtop	Montana Indian Education Association
Yancey Beston	Montana Indian School Boards Caucus
Dawn Bishop-Moore	Indian Impact Schools of Montana
Norma Bixby	Northern Cheyenne Tribe
Derek Calvert (alternate)	Montana University System
Marcy Cobell	Urban – Great Falls
Jason Cummins	Class 7
Pete Donovan (alternate)	Board of Public Education
Jordann Forster (alternate)	Montana Federation of Public Employees
Iris Killeagle	Little Shell Tribe
Jeremy MacDonald (alternate)	School Administrators of Montana
Michelle Mitchell	Office of Public Instruction
Jennifer Smith	Urban – Billings
Viola Wood	Tribal Head Start

Office of Public Instruction

Joycelyn DesRosier	Joan Franke
Zach Hawkins	Mike Jetty
Annette Young	

Guests

Michael LaValley	Sen. Tester’s Office
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Members Absent

Mary Jo Bremner	Board of Public Education
Myrna DuMontier	Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
Harold Dusty Bull	Blackfeet Tribe
Melissa Hammett	Urban – Missoula
Richard Littlebear	Tribal Colleges
Angela Mclean	Montana University System
Teresa McMakin	Bureau of Indian Education
Voyd St. Pierre	Chippewa Cree Tribe
Kaci Walette	Fort Peck Tribes

Vice-chairperson Jennifer Smith called the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education (MACIE) meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. Introductions were done.

Review of Minutes of May 8, 2019, meeting

Time to review the minutes was given. Norma Bixby motioned to approve the minutes as written and Dawn Bishop-Moore seconded. Passed by all.

## Ex-officio Reports

### ◇ Superintendent of Public Instruction – Susie Hedalen

The Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) has proposed rules regarding lead testing of water at school buildings which is a concern for the Office of Public Instruction (OPI) regarding the fiscal impact to schools. There is some funding but not enough. The DPHHS is taking comments through September 16.

There are also new rules regarding cleaning supplies and venting along with updated playground regulations.

The OPI is distributing information to schools and libraries so an accurate count may be made in the 2020 census. The census information is used to calculate Title I funding to schools. Ms. Hedalen asked MACIE to help get the word out on this along with how to provide the information regarding the census so it is culturally sensitive. The information will go out once the holidays are over. Western Native Voice has been doing outreach regarding census. Will email Susie contact information.

Schools have received their testing – ACT [high school] and SBAC – [K-8] – results. The ACT results will be released publically Friday at the Board of Public Education (BPE) meeting. The SBAC data is going through data quality control before release. It is hoped that the report card will be release in early- to mid-December.

Amendments to the Every School Succeeds Act (ESSA) plan are being done. There will be sharing about tribal languages and utilizing tribal strengths in the amendment. One amendment already done defines inexperienced, out-of-field, and ineffective educators. Once the amendments are compiled, the OPI will ask for feedback and do a focus group.

Schools identified for [comprehensive support](#) were provided with an OPI staff person and an instructional coach for help with improvement. Schools felt the support was good and they made instructional gains. However, more work needs to be done to support culture and climate of schools, which OPI needs to determine how to do that. Schools identified for [Targeted Assistance](#) have trainings in reading and math along with professional development regarding the group for which they are in targeted assistance. The plan now is to ask schools for individual plans for interventions with groups that are failing. The OPI will then provide funding to put the proposal in place.

Linda from Baker is the 2020 Teacher of Year. Jennifer Smith was on the selection committee. Jordann Lankford Forster was a finalist.

Indian Heritage Day is September 27.

### ◇ Tribal Colleges – no report

### ◇ Board of Public Education – Pete Donovan

MACIE – September 11, 2019

The next meeting will be this Friday at capitol in room 317. There will be a MACIE report and the constitution and by-laws will be reviewed and approved. Mr. Donovan thanked MACIE for attending meetings and doing reports. The [complete agenda](#) is on-line

Norma Bixby asked that Linda Peterson return to do another report on Praxis to MACIE. Mr. Donovan indicated there is a report in the [agenda packet](#) on the Web site so it can be seen there. He doesn't know if there is Indian content in the report or not.

The updates for the content standards were discussed. New standards for Career and Technical Vocational Education, Computer Science, Library Media/Information Literacy, Social Studies, and Technology Integration have been written and are in the feed back stage. Mike Jetty and an Indian Education coach from Billings were on the social studies standards writing committee.

◇ Bureau of Indian Education – no report

Ms. Bixby indicated that with the new Johnson-O'Malley Act (JOM) regional offices are supposed to be set up. The Northern Cheyenne hasn't been monitored in three years because an education person to do it cannot be found. Paperwork is sent through Billings but there is no followup.

◇ Tribal Head Start – Viola Wood

There is a new Programs Manger, Todd Lertjuntharangool for Regon XI. He is Native and originally from Arizona. He has 13 years of Head Start experience.

The Crow Reservation does not currently have a Head Start program. All other reservation programs have had training and have started programs for the year.

#### Congressional Delegate Reports – Michael LaValley

A legislative assistant for Indian Affairs, Kathy McCleary, has been hired in Senator Tester's office. She is Little Shell. A tour of the state was done to find out how Senator Tester can help.

The Native Support and Training Act has been introduced but there has been introduced but there has not been a Senate committee hearing yet.

Appropriations will be worked on in the next few weeks for next fiscal year. Current year funding ends at the end of this month. Funding frequently happens through continuing resolutions. Funding for tribal colleges needs to happen by the end of the month so Senator Tester will be pushing this.

There is a loan forgiveness program for Indian educators and those who work in predominately native schools. Mr. LaValley believes the time need to teach in a predominately Indian population school was lowered from five years to three years but will verify this, along with verifying that the school needs to be 50% Indian students and whether the program is

retroactive or not. If the Indian population does need to be 50%, probably no urban schools would qualify.

Norma Bixby inquired whether higher education programs had been cut a lot and Mr. LaValley indicated he had heard that was an issue. Ms. Bixby also asked if JOM funding was going to be increased or remain at the same level. Mr. LaValley indicated the Senator Tester's office would keep an eye on this. Ms. Bixby will send information to Michelle Mitchell on JOM to send to all MACIE members.

### Election of Chairperson

Control of the meeting was turned over to Norma Bixby and she opened nominations for the Chairperson position vacated by Georgie Gourneau. Joe Arrowtop nominated Jennifer Smith and Jason Cummins seconded the motion. No other nominations were made and Dawn Bishop-Moore moved that nominations be closed. Voice vote was taken and Jennifer was elected as chairperson.

Control of the meeting returned to Jennifer Smith.

As the Vice-chairperson position was vacated due to the election of Jennifer Smith to Chairperson, Ms. Smith asked for vice-chairperson nominations. Joe Arrowtop nominated Marcy Cobell and Jason Cummins seconded the motion. No other nominations were made and Dawn Bishop-Moore motioned to close the nominations and Iris Killeagle seconded. Ms. Cobell was elected on a voice vote.

### Standing Committees goal setting

The council broke up into groups to set mission statements and goals.

◇ Communication, Collaboration, and Advocacy – Marcy Cobell, Jennifer Smith, Norma Bixby, Viola Wood, Dawn Bishop-Moore

Mission Statement: to advocate for American Indian students by collaborating with tribal communities, both urban and reservation, on issues pertinent to Indian education, including follow up reporting to MACIE, OPI, BPE, and other relevant entities.

Goals:

1. Trauma
  - a. Current
  - b. Generational
  - c. Historical
  - d. Addiction
  - e. institutionalized racism and ignorance
  - f. is trauma informed work being actually done

2. Need to have all teachers take culturally proficient classes and receive information on what going to see in the classroom.
3. For Indian Education for All (IEFA) needs to add social justice and restorative justice in addition to the essential understandings.

The American Indian Minority Achievement (AIMA) Office/Advisory Council has reached out to the Montana School Boards Association Indian school Board Caucus and the Salish Kootenai College on how to train teachers.

Need to make decisions based on data that is available.

◇ Student Success – Jordann Forster, Iris Killeagle, Michelle Mitchell, Derek Calvert (Annette Young, Joycelyn DesRosier)

Mission Statement: Emphasize the topics which schools can have a positive impact on, and focus on encouraging youth to be rooted in identify so they may grow in their chosen path.

Goals:

1. Increase parental/community involvement by asking parents what it would take to get them involved. Also need to find out where they would be willing to meet if going to the school building would be a barrier.
2. Foster a positive cultural identity in all aspects of life so students that would identify with a gang would instead have a tribal identity.
3. Cultural responsive practices so students do not need to leave their identity at the door. Would also need to bring in the parents who do not know the culture so the parents and students grow together.
4. Honor all students and their gifts including those that generally do not get honored.

◇ Legislative, Fiscal, and Policy – Joe Arrowtop, Jason Cummins, Jeremy MacDonald, Yancey Beston (Michael LaValley)

Mission Statement: To support and enhance local, tribal, state, and federal policies that address issues raised by MACIE such as providing a culturally relevant education, teacher/administration turnover, etc.

Goals:

1. Recruitment and retention of school personnel including student loan forgiveness and training assistance
2. Training for making schools more culturally relevant

3. Find people to work with schools that have a high rate of civil rights incidents. Montana is in the top five for discipline issues.
4. Move educators and families from a victim mentality to one of resilience.
5. Standards and indicators of success for educating on reservations or schools with high Indian populations
  - a. Comment: There is no indigenous way of record keeping such as success of a student
    - i. Suggestions: If a student with multiple write-ups and if the student then is able to go two weeks without a write up a previous write-up will be eliminated.

Mike Jetty indicated AIMA is doing IEFA training for faculty. Jennifer asked Derek to convey to Angela McLean that MACIE would like an AIMA report and first free at tribal colleges program.

#### Indian Student Achievement Unit Report – Michelle Mitchell

[The Vision, Mission, and Strategic Plan](#) developed by this unit (ISA) was handed out. These are aligned with the OPI's mission of Hope, Teach, Learn, and Ready. Also each person in the unit has written a personal plan.

The unit gave funding (\$6,000 each) to [eleven summer programs](#). Information on the funding had been sent out to all schools on and near reservations and those with significant populations of American Indian students. The ones funded were those that responded to the request for proposal. Box Elder had a language camp coordinated by Jay Eagleman where they brought in elders. Also Lanny Real Bird did sign language and then Cree was taught with that. Both Rocky Boy and Box Elder had access to this. Crow Agency had a partnership with Montana State University Bozeman to teach Crow science regarding water and how to have proper relationship with this. Some waters on the reservation were tested and there was a presentation to parents. Billings had a Kindergarten-7th grade Native Summer Academy during June. There was computer work in reading and math. One of the IEFA curriculum coaches and one other person did small group work on math, reading, games, and writing. There was also IEFA science integration and cultural projects.

OPI will be having a [Restorative Practices Training](#) to train people in this. The training will be braided with tribal ways. The goal is to have 100 people trained so can they can go to schools and facilitate restorative practices. OPI will be paying to reimburse. There will be a document produced for braiding the two worlds together. There will probably be another training. Resolutions Northwest was chosen to do this training due to their willingness to braid tribal ways into the training.

[Letters](#) to eligible schools were sent regarding funding under House Bill 41 which provides funding for language immersion schools, which need to teach in the content areas in the Native language 50% of the day. This is to schools with school populations of ten percent or more American Indian students. Seven schools applied, up from four in the last funding cycle. The

\$45,000 will be divided based on a formula, which includes number of students etc. The funding will be sent out yearly in November. Jason Cummins indicated a district does not need to have a grant to have a language immersion school. Crow Agency used their money for training and planning. They now have five dual immersion classrooms and those have reached higher academic standards and have less discipline issues than regular classrooms. This year for the first time the SBAC test will be given to those students who were in the dual immersion programs. [Language Immersion Funding Assurances](#)

The unit has had very poor luck getting engagement from the tribes for tribal consultation. MACIE help is being asked for advice on how to get the tribes involved along with going to the tribes and letting them know the specifics. This is a required, legal obligation. Without local help, the tribal councils will not get involved. Iris Killeagle indicated the councils need to understand they are a stakeholder. She also indicated that many councils have not really been involved with education.

Leo Davis is the new Indian Student Achievement Specialist. He will be working to support Lodge Grass and Lame Deer with Title I.

#### Indian Education for All Unit Report – Zach Hawkins

The strategic plan for this unit (IEFA), which is aligned with the OPI plan, was handed out

The Essential Understandings 101 Hub course had been taken by over 2,500 people. This is being facilitated by Mike Jetty

A science unit aligned to the New Generation science standards is being written and Jennifer Stadum is finishing up the work on this.

Literature units on three books are being done for the elementary level. The books are *Powwow Summer: A Family Celebrates the Circle of Life* by Marcie R. Rendon, *Double! Not Half.* by Rodney Gottula, and *Bowwow Powwow* by Brenda J. Child.

Best Practices will be during the spring in Billings at Montana State University Billings. Jennifer Smith indicated she would like Billings schools to be involved in the planning.

Jennifer stated eastern and southeastern Montana gets overlooked, along with urban.

Joe Arrowtop indicated the Montana Indian Education Association conference will be in April.

Five standards for five content areas are being revised and IEFA has been at the table on the writing of all of those. Draft standards are available for comment by September 30.

The unit is in discussions with MAPS Media regarding producing a film regarding the essential understandings. The student perspective on this is also wanted. The film will be 30-40 minutes. One challenge is getting filming done on every reservation.

For the next MACIE meeting, November 6, 2019, in Helena, head shots will be taken so they may be posted on the Web site.

Input from MACIE members regarding future action agenda items

AIMA report on IEFA for preservice teachers

GEAR UP

Suicide prevention

Restorative practice from person who goes to the Resolutions Northwest training.

Alcohol and substance abuse

Praxis

Self care

Human trafficking

ACTION ITEM: Jason Cummins made a motion to have OPI look into what human trafficking prevention Indian schools are doing. This was seconded by Dawn Bishop-Moore. Passed by all on voice vote.

Public Comment

No public comment

Marcy Cobell motioned to adjourn the meeting and Iris Killeagle seconded. Adjourned.

signed by Dawn Bishop-Moore  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_ November 6, 2019