



MACIE MEETING
July 7, 2021
Approved Minutes

Members Present

Dawn Bishop-Moore	Indian Impact Schools of Montana
Norma Bixby	Northern Cheyenne Tribe
Dugan Coburn	Urban – Great Falls
Michelle Crazy	Fort Belknap Tribes
Jason Cummins	Class 7
Harold Dusty Bull	Blackfeet Tribe
Susie Hedalen	Board of Public Education
Angela McLean	Montana University System
Jennifer Smith	Urban – Billings

Office of Public Instruction/
Board of Public Education

Sharyl Allen	McCall Flynn
Joan Franke	Zach Hawkins
Shantel Niederstadt	Sarah Swanson

Guests

Levi Black Eagle	Crow Tribe
Dylan Klapmeier	Governor’s Office

Members Absent

Joe Arrowtop	Montana Indian Education Association
Rodney Bird	Bureau of Indian Education
Michael Dolson	Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
Jordann Forster	Montana Federation of Public Employees
Megan Gourneau	Fort Peck Tribes
Melissa Hammett	Urban – Missoula
Iris Kill Eagle	Little Shell Tribe
Richard Littlebear	Tribal Colleges
Jeremy MacDonald	School Administrators of Montana
Lona Running Wolf	Office of Public Instruction
Voyd St. Pierre	Chippewa Cree Tribe

The Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education (MACIE) meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jennifer Smith at 9:08 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and roll call was done.

Minutes

The minutes from the June 9, 2021, MACIE meeting were reviewed. Dugan Coburn motioned to approve the minutes as written and Dawn Bishop-Moore seconded the motion. Passed by all.

Indian Education Unit Reports

➤ Indian Education for All (IEFA)

Zach Hawkins reported on projects the IEFA unit are working on. The grant application process for the coming year is now open. It will close at the end of the month.

➤ American Indian Student Achievement (AISA)

The AISA unit was not available to do their report.

Ex-officio Reports

➤ Superintendent of Public Instruction – Sharyl Allen

- The superintendent spoke to the Youth Challenge Academy graduation.
- Through HB556 there is an alternate diploma moving forward to be available.
- There is a legislative session summary report accessible on OPI website.
- OPI is working on the American Rescue Plan-Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief state and school plans. The template is live for schools to create their plans. Reopening plans need to be available on websites. Meaningful tribal consultation needs to be done for these plans.
- OPI is talking with the Department of Education regarding maintenance of equity. The federal government wants current year funding to be used for determination of this instead of prior year funding, which is what Montana is currently using.
- There are new content standards for social studies, career and technical education, library media, technical integration, and computer science. There is professional development regarding these on the Teacher Learning Hub.
- Task forces are working on both Chapters 57 and 58. Recommendations will go to the Superintendent of Public Instruction (Superintendent) and then these will be forwarded to the Board of Public Education (BPE) for review and potential adoption.
- Sixty-eight OPI staff members will now be teleworking.
- Dr. Linda Peterson has retired.

Informational Presentations

➤ Montana Seal of Biliteracy – Lisa Werner, Montana Association of Language Teachers (MALT)

One of the goals of MALT is to see a seal of biliteracy be adopted by Montana. Lisa started with the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council. They recommended this issue be brought forward to the BPE for discussion and they suggested she present to MACIE. This will be an action item on the July 15 BPE meeting.

The seal of biliteracy is an emblem affixed to a diploma or transcript of high school graduates who have attained a high level of proficiency in reading, writing, listening, and speaking in English and another world language. This encourages students whose first language is not English to maintain their first language and become proficient in English.

For the more common languages such as Spanish, German, and French, there would be a proficiency exam. However, for American Native languages, each tribe would need to provide recommendations for showing proficiency in that language.

If this is approved, there will need to be a process for the awarding of the emblem.

There is some legislation reintroduced in March, 2021, Biliteracy Education Seal and Teaching Act. This legislation would provide money for implementation.

Dawn motioned that MACIE endorse Ms. Werner’s pursuit of a biliteracy seal. Dugan Coburn seconded. Passed by all.

- Discipline and Educational Equity in Montana’s Public Schools – Keegan Medrano, American Civil Liberties Union Montana (ACLU Montana)

[Report](#)

Keegan Medrano reviewed the information in the Empty Desks: Discipline & Policing in Montana’s Public Schools report from the ACLU Montana.

The definition Mr. Medrano uses for education equity is distributing resources and removing harmful punishments to dress historical and systemic harms, while empowering individuals to overcome barriers to success.

By investing in support staff such as psychologists, nurses, counselors, and social workers there can be an improvement of attendance rates and lower rates of exclusionary discipline which will improve graduation rates and improve school safety. Recommendations from the report are limiting exclusionary discipline for all students, banning the use of exclusionary discipline for students in sixth grade and below, ending permanent and routine policing of schools, funding programs that train and provide tools to support student behavior in a positive manner, providing better campus mental health care services, improving data collection, and implementing IEFA more consistently.

Dugan Coburn indicated that although there is disparate discipline at East Middle School it is not as high as reported as the information provided was incorrect. They are now working with ACLU Montana to correct that information. Mr. Medrano indicated he will send the updated information.

Jason Cummins suggested the Office of Public Instruction (OPI) provide schools information and skills for dealing with these problems.

- National Indian Education Study (NIES) – Shantel Niederstadt, Office of Public Instruction

Shantel Niederstadt presented information on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) and NIES. Ms. Niederstadt presented highlights regarding the NIES survey along with average scores for the NAEP for 2005-2019.

[NCES-NIES 20219 Report](#)

Public Comment

No public comment

The MACIE meeting adjourned at 11:42.

/s/ Dawn Bishop-Moore
Approved August 11, 2021