



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

MACIE MEETING
 August 11, 2021
 Minutes

Members Present

Dawn Bishop-Moore Indian Impact Schools
 of Montana
 Levi Black Eagle Crow Tribe
 Dugan Coburn Urban – Great Falls
 Jason Cummins Class 7 Teachers
 Susie Hedalen Board of Public
 Education
 Iris Kill Eagle Little Shell Tribe
 Jeremy MacDonald School Administrators
 of Montana
 Jennifer Smith Urban – Billings
 Lona Running Wolf Office of Public
 Instruction

Office of Public Instruction

Board of Public Education

McCall Flynn Joan Franke
 Todd Hanson Jennifer Stadum
 Sarah Swanson Annette Young

Members Absent

Rodney Bird Bureau of Indian
 Education
 Norma Bixby Northern Cheyenne
 Tribe
 Michelle Crazy Fort Belknap Tribes
 Michael Dolson Confederated Salish
 and Kootenai Tribes
 Harold Dusty Bull Blackfeet Tribe
 Jordann Forster Montana Federation
 of Public Employees
 Megan Gourneau Fort Peck Tribes
 Melissa Hammett Urban – Missoula
 Dr. Richard Littlebear Tribal Colleges
 Angela McLean Montana University
 System
 Voyd St. Pierre Chippewa Cree Tribe

The Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education (MACIE) working meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jennifer Smith at 9:04 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and roll call was done. Levi Black Eagle was acknowledged as having been approved as a new member.

Minutes

The minutes of the July 7, 2021 meeting were reviewed. Jennifer Smith asked for clarification regarding the fourth bullet item under the Superintendent’s presentation. It was decided it should say “... the template is live for schools to create their plans.”

Dugan Coburn moved to approve minutes as amended and Iris Kill Eagle seconded the motion. Passed by all.

Old Business

➤ Regalia Committee – Jennifer Smith

A meeting on this was held in April in regard to statutory language and school district violations. The members will do additional research and then will meet again. Once they have had another meeting, they will report to the entire MACIE.

➤ Student Representative Committee – Dugan Coburn and Jennifer Smith

Dugan Coburn talked about finding scholarships for students will participate. They are working on getting nominations for members. Jennifer Smith indicated she had emailed other urban districts for a member and has not heard back. Iris Kill Eagle indicated the Indian School Board Caucus has approved funding \$5,000 per semester, up to three semesters, scholarship. This will be sent directly to the student. There was discussion regarding a bonus if the student went in to teaching (to be given after graduation). directly to student for three semesters with discussion also bonus if going into teaching. This is for the reservation student. Ms. Kill Eagle will reach out to the student in Hays. Mr. Coburn has a junior that he will be talking with this afternoon regarding participation. These new members will be submitted to the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Board of Public Education (BPE) for September.

➤ Ongoing Review of Constituent Concerns, Disparate Discipline – Jennifer Smith

Discussion points:

- Great Falls did change how discipline is handled. They are intervening earlier at middle school so not sending students to harsher discipline.
- Changes have taken place at Crow Agency Elementary.
- Billings Public Schools is looking into restorative justice training to respond to situations which are potential discipline situations
- Good opportunity for tribal councils to have the presentation. This would help with the tribal consultation in providing resources and joining efforts with the local school districts to find solutions.
- Staff needs to be trained on policies and procedures on what steps need to be taken toward discipline and penalties.
- Need to continue the conversation. People need to be made aware.
- Need to move toward restorative practices, help students become problem solvers, and need social-emotional training.
- It is the administrator's job to make sure interventions that were taught are actually implemented in the school.

➤ Board of Public Education Adoption of Indigenous Language Use Resolution – Jason Cummins

Jason Cummins indicated this was received positively and enthusiastically. A resolution was adopted. A workshop on this is planned this fall. Mr. Cummins indicated he would like the Office of Public Instruction (OPI) to endorse and act upon it also. It has been brought to the executive office and a response has not been received.

Jeremy MacDonald said the superintendent regional meetings would be a good opportunity for OPI to provide information on Native language rights. Also the Montana School Board Association would be able to get the information out to trustees.

➤ Chapter 58 Review Update – Jennifer Smith

Jennifer Smith has been sitting in on the meetings. MACIE's concern is Indian Education for All (IEFA) training at university level. This concern has not yet been covered in this review.

McCall Flynn said she believes there is a Native Language endorsement within the World Language subject area.

Chairperson Smith will have Zach Hawkins, who is chairing the task force, speak at the September MACIE meeting.

New Business

➤ Creation of new MACIE Logo

Chairperson Smith asked regarding MACIE's need for a logo. Sarah Swanson indicated the Superintendent's Office would endorse a logo for the advisory council. There would be no liabilities to having a logo. There was consensus that a logo would be beneficial.

Lona Running Wolf will discuss this with Don Wetzel for the RISE youth group to run a contest.

➤ Montana School Law Conference Breakout Session Suggestions – Jennifer Smith

This has been postponed to April.

The tentative schedule is result of brainstorming of what are big issues. The Superintendent's Office is looking for topic suggestions along with presenters. There will be a pretty wide audience invited. There will be a fee charged for attendance, but there will be scholarships and discounts offered.

Jason Cummins suggested Dr. Sweeney Winchief to speak regarding Critical Race Theory.

There is a second [law conference](#) November 11-12 in Livingston. They will be covering Native language protections and regalia in hot topics.

➤ Lawsuit regarding Indian Education for All Acknowledgement – Jennifer Smith

This is a [lawsuit](#) filed against OPI and BPE regarding accountability for spending of IEFA funds. MACIE supports IEFA implementation and professional development and development of lessons and programming that goes with that.

Iris Kill Eagle indicated that when it was presented to the tribal council it was presented as to bring awareness to schools and that it needs to be implemented correctly.

McCall Flynn indicated the BPE was served with the lawsuit last week. There were six items that were indicated as being needed.

- establishment of minimum standards by which the defendants can determine whether school districts and schools are complying with their responsibilities under the provisions and then to adequately monitor, implement, and enforce those standards;
- establish meaningful and objective reporting requirements to assess IEFA funding expenditures by school districts and schools;
- ensure proper expenditures by school districts and schools of IEFA funds;

- ensure compliance by school districts and schools with IEFA content standards for purposes of school accreditation;
- ensure cooperation by school districts and schools with Montana tribes in educational instruction, the implementation of educational goals, and the adoption of educational rules; and
- enforce generally the provisions of the law.

Break

➤ American Indian Student Achievement Stakeholder Surveys – Lona Running Wolf

Lona Running Wolf gave a presentation regarding the American Indian Student Achievement (AISA) research project to get information why the achievement gap is happening. The surveys are to determine student positive self-identity, if the culture is thriving in the school, and feeling a sense of community within the school. She then went through the questions on the adult and student surveys.

Jeremy MacDonald is concerned the tribal identity does not have the names used by the tribes. Also, the Chippewa and Cree need to be separate selections.

The AISA unit is working on getting permissions from Institutional Review Boards for each reservation for the surveys. The one for Blackfeet has been approved. This also needs to be approved by the executive committee and the data governance committee. This survey will be given to students starting in the eighth grade.

Mr. MacDonald asked about information at the individual district level. The unit is planning on doing case studies in the future to determine why specific districts are having success.

Public Comment

No public comment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

/s/ Dawn Bishop-Moore
Approved September 8, 2021