



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

MACIE Meeting
 October 2, 2024
 Minutes - Draft

Members Present

Dawn Bishop-Moore	Indian Impact Schools of Montana
Norma Bixby	Northern Cheyenne Tribe
Levi Black Eagle	Crow Tribe
Dugan Coburn*	Urban – Great Falls
Jordann Forster*	Montana Federation of Public Employees
Brooke Gondara*	Office of Public Instruction
Iris Kill Eagle*	Little Shell Tribe
Rena Lambert	Fort Peck Tribes
Jeremy MacDonald	School Administrators of Montana
Jeannie Origbo (alternate)	Montana University System
Calli Rusche-Nicholson*	Billings Public Schools
<u>Office of Public Instruction/ Board of Public Education</u>	
Joan Franke*	Julie Jeffers
Mike Jetty*	Carrie Kouba
Chris Morigeau	Jennifer Stadum

Guests

Yancey Beston (nominee)	MTSBA Indian School Board Caucus
Edward Parisian (nominee)	School Administrators of Montana

Members Absent

Rodney Bird	Bureau of Indian Education
Michelle Crazy	Fort Belknap Tribes
Marcy Cobell	Montana Indian Education Association
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
Angela McLean	Montana University System
Cory Sangrey-Billy	Tribal Colleges
John Well-Off-Man	Class 7 Teachers

*In person

The Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education (MACIE) meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. by Chairperson Jordann Forster. Mike Jetty did the honor song. And roll call was done.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the August 14, 2024, minutes were reviewed. Dugan Coburn motioned to approve the minutes as printed. This was seconded by Iris Kill Eagle. Approved by all.

American Indian Education Administrative Reports

❖ Tribal Student Achievement and Relations (TSAR) Unit – Brooke Gondara

Brooke Gondara provided information regarding American Indian student achievement data (five-year trend) around population, testing, attendance, discipline, behavior, and college readiness.

The TSAR unit has developed and is implementing an Indigenous Whole Learner Framework model to support educators and others who support educators to understand the relational standpoint (ways of knowing, being, and doing) of Indigenous youth.

Dr. Gondara provided next steps regarding safety, barriers to achievement, drop-out prevention support, Native students bringing their whole selves into the Montana K-12 classroom to learn and develop, and strengthening the self-esteem of Native students.

❖ Indian Education for All (IEFA) – Chris Morigeau

The IEFA unit was approached by Jen Murphy regarding a book on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons and both Indian education units will be working on a curriculum regarding this.

A new year of monthly webinars have been started. The word on this needs to be shared around the state.

The unit is looking to move away from one and done professional development with schools and is developing a new survey regarding where the school district is and what they actually need. There will be checking in with districts after the professional development. Mr. Morigeau also provided information on other training the unit is providing.

Chris Morigeau is working on policy brief regarding state education-tribal compacts to put control of the schools into the tribes' hands.

Chairperson Report

There will be two new members appointed during the Board of Public Education (BPE) meeting in November.

The Teacher of the Year interviews going forward will include at least one IEFA question.

Chairperson Forster indicated she will be making a formal recommendation to the Office of Public Instruction (OPI) to fill Joan Franke's position before she leaves so there may be training.

Members were provided an opportunity for community share.

Jordann Lankford-Forster provided information on MACIE membership and what MACIE does (and does not do).

Old Business

❖ Funding Guidelines Recommendations

The recommendations to go to OPI and BPE regarding achievement gap and IEFA funding.

- Achievement Gap

- ✓ Culture teachers should be tribally specific knowledge and language keepers
 - ✓ Specialist, coordinator, - not necessarily a certified teacher
 - ✓ Tribally specific language keepers
 - ✓ Transportation (to include students, training materials, and speakers on and off campuses)
 - ✓ Food (for those in need or at cultural gatherings)
 - ✓ Community involvement
- IEFA
 - ✓ Training in teacher preparation programs to provide pre-service students with more training to be prepared to teach.
 - ✓ Teaching IEFA in all disciplines
 - ✓ Each tribe a person funded by state funds to deal with tribal consultation
 - ✓ Dedicated IEFA coordinator in every school
 - ✓ Transportation (to include students, training materials, and speakers on and off campuses)
 - ✓ Required attendance at IEFA related professional development, specific portion of renewal unit requirements for license renewal
 - ✓ Food
 - ✓ List of speakers

Jordann Forster indicated she would like Montana State University Bozeman (MSU Bozeman) to come talk to MACIE regarding what they are teaching regarding IEFA and what they doing for Indigenous students.

Iris Kill Eagle motioned to move the recommendations forward and Dugan Coburn seconded the motion. Passed by all.

❖ American Indian Academic Achievement Recommendations

This is a continuation of the discussion started during Ivan Small's presentation and the BPE panel discussion. Jordann provided a handout regarding the BPE session. These recommendations would be sent to OPI and BPE to be targeted to schools on and near reservations.

- ✓ Provide adequate and reoccurring in-person school board trainings to our reservation communities
- ✓ Prioritize literacy and math efforts by funding educational programing and additional support staff
- ✓ School districts make their annual application for Indian Education available to parents, community, and any member of the public (this is the annual report to the federal government to ensures their funding.
- ✓ Coaches and mentors
- ✓ Research based tutoring
- ✓ Academic and whole child supports
- ✓ Grant goals (or any funding) and how met the goals for that funding should be available to the public.
- ✓ How schools utilize achievement gap funding needs to be tightened up (and reporting required) by the legislature

All comprehensive support and improvement schools will have mentoring through MSU Bozeman. IEFA will be added in as part of that.

Iris Kill Eagle made a motion to take these recommendations to OPI and BPE. This was seconded by Calli Rusche-Nicholson. Passed by all.

❖ MACIE Goals

The goals were discussed, changes made, and those changes were voted on.

Goal 1 – new goal:

Community, family, and parental engagement with local school system

MACIE will advocate for and alongside communities, families, parents, and school systems that serve any Native American/American Indian student populations with the intent of recognizing the impact of historical and contemporary trauma while promoting efforts to ensure safe, secure, and stable educational environments where students and parents/guardians feel welcome and supported.

Callie Rusche-Nicholson motioned to approve this goal and Dugan Coburn seconded the motion. Passed by all.

Goal 2 – new goal:

School programs targeting systemic racism, disparate discipline, student achievement, and historical, generational, and contemporary trauma

MACIE will encourage the adoption of practices/models/initiatives which address the presence of systemic racism and the associated disparate discipline of Native American/American Indian students in public schools with the intent of supporting efforts focused on the impact these conditions have upon student achievement.

Dugan Coburn motioned to approve this. Iris Kill Eagle seconded the motion. Passed by all.

Goal 3 – new goal:

Culture, language, and culturally relevant curriculum

MACIE will act as an advocate and advisor for the meaningful integration of culture and Indigenous language in Montana schools. MACIE will promote the adoption of culturally relevant resources, curriculum, and instruction in support of the expression of Native American/American Indian student self-identity and self-actualization.

Iris Kill Eagle motioned to approve this update. Calli Rusche-Nicholson seconded the motion. Passed by all.

Goal 4 – new goal:

Equitable access to quality public education

MACIE supports school-based programs that are focused on providing equitable access to a quality public education for our Native American/American Indian students to close the academic achievement gap.

Iris Kill Eagle motioned to approve this. Dugan Coburn seconded the motion. Passed by all.

New Business

❖ Attendance

Chairperson Jordann Forster presented a draft e-mail to send to those members who have not been responsive regarding meeting attendance. Consensus of the MACIE members is to send these e-mails, along with sending a copy to the chairperson of the tribe/organization.

❖ Election of Officers

Dugan Coburn nominated Iris Kill Eagle as secretary for MACIE. No more nominations were received. A vote was taken and passed by all. (Iris abstained).

Dugan Coburn motioned for Calli Nicholson to be vice-chairperson. Iris Kill Eagle seconded the nomination. Passed by all (Calli abstained).

Iris Kill Eagle nominated Jordann Forster for chairperson, and the nomination was seconded by Dugan Coburn. Passed by all (Jordann abstained).

Public Comment

Norma Bixby indicated she is on the board of Friends of the Montana Constitution. She has been having a hard time getting the tribes to support and participate in the entire constitution pertaining to them. Norma believes there needs to be more Native participation and is asking MACIE members to encourage others to participate.

Jordann Lankford Forster said she has asked Dylan Klapmeier to present at the next meeting regarding a proposed cell phone ban in schools.

Calli Rusche-Nicholson motioned to adjourn the meeting and Dugan Coburn seconded the motion. Passed by all. The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 6.