



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

Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education
November 1, 2023

Agenda – Informational Session

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID 835 1613 2118

Password 628635

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 Lankford-Forster, Chairperson | |
| ❖ Pledge of Allegiance | |
| ❖ Roll Call | |
| Item 2: Approval of Minutes | 9:15 a.m. |
| ❖ October 4, 2023, Minutes | |
| Item 3: Ex-officio Reports (10 minutes each) | 9:20 a.m. |
| ❖ Superintendent of Public Instruction – Elsie Arntzen | |
| Item 4: American Indian Education Administrative Reports (10 minutes each) | 9:30 a.m. |
| ❖ Indian Education for All Unit – Zach Hawkins | |
| Item 5: Chairperson Report | 9:50 a.m. |
| Item 6: Informational Presentations (15 minutes each) | 10:00 a.m. |
| ❖ Indian Student Achievement – Ivan Small | |
| ❖ Rigorous Action – Carrie Kouba | |
| ❖ OPI Content Standards – Marie Judisch and Stephanie Swigart | |
| Item 7: Old Business | 10:45 a.m. |
| ❖ Website Update | |
| ❖ MACIE Goals – discussion regarding updating | |

Item 8: Public Comment

11:45 a.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 that 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 9: Adjournment

noon

Times are approximate

The next meeting is January 3, 2024.



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**ITEM 2
APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- ❖ Handout 2.1
 - Draft October 4, 2023, minutes



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MACIE Meeting
 October 4, 2023
 Minutes - Draft

Members Present (* in person)

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
 Melissa Hammett Urban – Missoula
 Susie Hedalen* Board of Public
 Education
 Iris Kill Eagle* Little Shell Tribe
 Jeremy MacDonald* School Administrators
 of Montana
 Calli Nicholson Billings Public Schools
 Nicholson
 Jeananne Origbo* Montana University
 (alternate) System
 Don Wetzel* Office of Public
 Instruction

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
 Paul Finnicum MTSBA Indian School
 Board Caucus
 Hilary Gourneau Tribal Head Start
 Megan Gourneau Fort Peck Tribes
 Angela McLean Montana University
 System
 Cory Sangrey-Billy Tribal Colleges
 John Stiffarm Class 7
Office of Public Instruction/ Board of Public
 Education (*in person)
 Robin Clausen Alicia Doney*
 McCall Flynn Zach Hawkins*
 Mike Jetty* Carrie Kouba*

The Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jordann Forster at 9:04 a.m. Roll call was taken.

Minutes

The minutes of the August 2 meeting were reviewed. Norma Bixby motioned to approve the minutes as written. Dugan Coburn seconded the motion. Passed by all.

Informational Presentations

❖ Montana University System

Jeannie Origbo presented regarding college application two weeks which started on Monday and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) updates and challenges, including

timing of the opening of the application vs. applying for aid at the MUS, additional assets being taken in to account regarding need (farm assets), and not taking in to account multiple students in a family.

❖ Indian Education for All (IEFA)

Zach Hawkins and Mike Jetty provided updates and challenges with IEFA. Guidance on funding is being updated. Schools are calling regarding the tribal consultation that is required by legislation during the 2023 legislative session. Donnie Wetzel gave a brief overview of consultation. He will give another presentation at the next informational session (November).

Upcoming Events

IEFA ENERGIZE First Tuesdays – 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

IEFA Across the Content Third Tuesdays – 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

[Zoom link for above](#)

IEFA Best Practices Conference – March 8-9, DoubleTree, Billings, Montana

❖ Early Warning System (EWS)

Robin Clausen discussed the EWS regarding students. It provides steady data sets that can assist with intervention and how the student is doing over time. There are 20 on-reservation districts that participate and those with a high native population there are 30.

There are four goals with the Montana program. Evaluation of the program focused on efficiency of the model, implementation of the model, and then different subgroups.

Mr. Clausen would like to come back in six months and present additional information regarding Native American students.

Chairperson Report/Community Updates

Chairperson Jordann Forster gave her report. She discussed the Teacher of the Year process. Jordann would like MACIE to have more input in the questions the candidates are asked for the Montana Teacher of the Year, such as why you should be teacher of the year. She will send the questions out. She also would like see Jacob Turcotte and Teresa Heil receive the Teresa Veltkamp Advocacy Award recognition.

Community updates were done.

Old Business

❖ Meeting Schedule and Budget

The meeting schedule for 2024 that was proposed during the April meeting was presented. With the budget of \$10,000 for two years, the schedule was updated to have the August meeting via Zoom. Due to the timing the Board of Public Education is not able to contribute to funding, except for paying for Suzie's travel.

❖ Website Update

Reviewed the new website.

The member information will provide the members' names, who they represent, contact information. There will be bio and a one-two sentence statement of why MACIE is important. There will also be a picture for each member.

❖ National Education Association (NEA) Letter

Jordann Forster provided the draft letter regarding information provided by the NEA needs to be accurate and authentic. She will send this to the National Indian Education Association and through the Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE). Jordann will ask the Office of Public Instruction and the Governor's education department for support with this letter. Jordann will be making some grammatical changes and indicated she will change "recommends and advises" to "advises and calls NEA to."

Also, Jordann asked if letters of support should be put on the website also.

New Business

❖ Position Statements

Reviewed the draft of the position statement regarding supporting and preparing pre-service educators. Jeremy MacDonald recommended a revision to the second paragraph, changing "little resources or developed curriculum" to minimal background knowledge and inadequate resources." He also recommended changing the last sentence of the paragraph from "should extend into all subject areas, units, and lessons" to "should extend into all subject areas and throughout a student's school year."

All license applicants are required to take the IEFA Hub course.

After Jordann revises for Jeremy's suggestions, she will send it out and ask for an e-vote.

❖ MACIE Goals

Jordann Forster has been asked by the superintendent to review the goals to determine if they are still applicable or if they need to be updated.

Suggestions for updates were:

- ✓ recruitment of quality (or any) educators
- ✓ recruit a tribal college for the teacher residency program
- ✓ IEFA
- ✓ Best practices guidance for recruitment and retention
- ✓ keep the focus on youth
- ✓ sign language with seal of biliteracy

Jeremy MacDonald made a motion to review and revise MACIE goals with the priority on actionable and measurable objectives Dawn Bishop-Moore seconded the motion. Passed by all.

Public Comment

Carrie Kouba, Senior Manager for Improvement and Engagement indicated an update to the Montana ESSA plan and she is looking for feedback on this before February 2.

Callie Rusche Nicholson suggested working on changing Indian Education for All to Indigenous Education for All.

Callie Rusche-Nicholson motioned to adjourn the meeting and Dugan Coburn seconded the motion. Passed by all.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:16 p.m.

The next meeting is November 1, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. on Zoom.



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ITEM 3
EX-OFFICIO REPORTS**

❖ Superintendent of Public Instruction – Elsie Arntzen



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ITEM 4

AMERICAN INDIAN EDUCATION ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- ❖ **Indian Student Achievement Unit Report**
 - Handout 4.1
 - Presentation Summary

Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education

Ex-officio and Indian Education Units Presentation Summaries

November 1, 2023

Presentation	OPI IEFA Unit Updates
Presenter	Zach Hawkins/Mike Jetty
Position Title	Indian Education For All Director/ Senior IEFA Specialist
Overview/Talking Points for Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Updates • OPI and IEFA actions related to HB 338 and Chapter 55 Accreditation Changes
Requested Decision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How should OPI support districts in following the spirit of HB 338
Issue(s) Related to MACIE Goals See second page for list of goals	Goal 3: Culture, language, and culturally relevant curriculum
Recommendation(s)	None
Handouts	None



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ITEM 5
CHAIRPERSON REPORT**

❖ **MACIE Chairperson Jordann Lankford-Forster**



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**ITEM 6
INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS**

❖ **Indian Student Achievement Historical Perspective**

- Handout 6.1
 - Presentation Summary

❖ **Rigorous Action**

- Handout 6.2
 - Presentation Summary

❖ **New Content Standards**

- Handout 6.3
 - Presentation Summary

MACIE AGENDA PRESENTATION REQUEST

November 1, 2023

Name and title of person presenting	Dr. Ivan Small - Crow tribal member and former school administrator
Contact information: phone	406-480-4768
Contact information: e-mail	ivansmall74@gmail.com
Organization	Retired Educator
Select one	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> New Business
Presentation title	Indian Student Achievement
Description of presentation	Would like to share a historical perspective with Indian Education and provide ideas for increasing achievement based on a long career working in American Indian schools.
How does this relate to the MACIE goals (next page)	This discussion relates to Goals 1, 2 and 3.
Action requesting the advisory council take	Provide suggestions for improving Indian Education and how to move beyond just talking about them and create change at the tribal community level.
Handouts (send with presentation request)	None
Technology requirements	None



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MACIE AGENDA PRESENTATION REQUEST

November 1, 2023

Name and title of person presenting	Marie Judisch – OPI Senior Manager of Teaching and Learning Stephanie Swigart – OPI ELA and Literacy Instructional Coordinator
Contact information: phone	406-444-5883
Contact information: e-mail	Marie.judisch@mt.gov
Organization	OPI
Select one	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> New Business
Presentation title	New Content Standards Math and World Languages
Description of presentation	OPI has led a task force to review the Math and World Languages Standards and they are about to move to Negotiated Rulemaking Committee. WE would like feedback on the integration of IEFA from the council.
How does this relate to the MACIE goals (next page)	Goal 3 – Culture, language, and culturally relevant curriculum. Both task forces were very intention in having authentic integration of IEFA into the standards with guidance from tribal members, IEFA and TSARR staff, and professionals in each academic field.
Action requesting the advisory council take	Review proposals and give feedback to OPI staff
Handouts (send with presentation request)	none
Technology requirements	Viewing Documents



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MACIE AGENDA PRESENTATION REQUEST

November 1, 2023

Name and title of person presenting	Carrie Kouba, Improvement and Engagement Senior Manager
Contact information: phone	406-444-0864
Contact information: e-mail	Carrie.kouba@mt.gov
Organization	Office of Public Instruction
Select one	X Presentation ___ New Business
Presentation title	Draft Rigorous Action
Description of presentation	The Every Student Succeeds Act requires each state to have a plan in place for schools identified as Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) and have not been able to exit this status because they are still in the bottom 5% and have not shown adequate growth of student in the not proficient and nearing proficiency. The term is called Rigorous Action. This presentation is to bring the draft statement to MACIE to seek input from this advisory committee
How does this relate to the MACIE goals (next page)	As an advisory group to the OPI, it is imperative to have MACIE's voice in this work as it relates to all students across the state. Goal #2
Action requesting the advisory council take	The OPI is requesting input on the verbiage and steps OPI plans on taking with schools who find themselves in Rigorous Action
Handouts (send with presentation request)	I can send the presentation when it is finished- is that ok?
Technology requirements	none



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**ITEM 7
OLD BUSINESS**

- ❖ **Website Update**

- ❖ **MACIE Goals**
 - Handout 6.1
 - Current Goals



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MACIE GOALS and MEMBER CONCERNS

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.

❖ Member Concerns

- Suicide (2)
- Parental Involvement
- Students being able to make it to school
- Unstable housing/family situation
- Overcoming historical trauma
- Teachers knowing about historical trauma and how to deal with it
- Positive parental involvement

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.

❖ Member Concerns

- Roots of the achievement gap that are not being addressed
- Disparate discipline (MACIE must address the findings in the ACLU report)
- How to address systemic racism

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.

❖ Member Concerns

- Language/Culture in public schools and curriculum
- Teach at least one of the Native American languages that is prevalent in the locale of the K-12 school
- Culturally relevant teacher training (more IEFA in teacher prep)
- Cross-cultural instruction for ALL staff members

- Culturally relevant curriculum (2)
- Cultural history (where you came from, where you are at today, and where do you want to be in the near and long term future)

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.

❖ Member Concerns

- Social Distancing
- Virtual Teaching

5. Member concerns not addressed in goals above

- ❖ Community support
- ❖ Community support for the value of education in modern society
- ❖ Fiscal responsibility/entrepreneurship