



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

Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education
March 7, 2024
MSU Billings – SUB Banquet A-B (with Zoom option)
Agenda – Full Session

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 815 8973 4708

Password: 110348

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: | 10:30 a.m. |
| ❖ Welcome – Jordann Lankford Forster, Chairperson | |
| ❖ Pledge of Allegiance | |
| ❖ Roll Call | |
| Item 2: Approval of Minutes | 10:45 a.m. |
| ❖ January 3, 2024, Minutes | |
| Item 3: Ex-Officio Reports | 10:55 a.m. |
| ❖ Superintendent of Public Instruction – Rick Wooton | |
| Item 4: American Indian Education Administrative Reports (10 minutes each) | 11:30 a.m. |
| ❖ Tribal Student Achievement and Relations –Crystal Hickman | |
| Item 5: Chairperson Report | 11:45 p.m. |
| Lunch at 12:30 p.m. | |
| Item 6: New Business | 1:15 p.m. |
| ❖ Rolls in MACIE | |
| ❖ IEFA Funding Guidance Discussion | |
| Item 7: Old Business | 1:45 p.m. |
| ❖ Update of Goals | |

Item 8: Public comment

3:45 p.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 public comments.

- The public may not discuss items on the current agenda at this time.
- The public may only discuss matters within the 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

4:00 p.m.

Times are approximate.

The next meeting is May 1, via Zoom.



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**MACIE AGENDA
FULL SESSION
March 7, 2024
ITEM 2
APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- ❖ Handout 2.1
 - Draft January 3, 2024, minutes



MONTANA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON INDIAN EDUCATION
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MACIE Meeting
 January 3, 2024
 Minutes - Draft

Members Present

Norma Bixby	Northern Cheyenne Tribe
Marcy Cobell	Montana Indian Education Association
Dugan Coburn	Urban – Great Falls
Michelle Crazy	Fort Belknap Tribes
Paul Finnicum	MTSBA Indian School Board Caucus
Jordann Forster	Montana Federation of Public Employees
Melissa Hammett	Urban – Missoula
Susie Hedalen	Board of Public Education
Iris Kill Eagle	Little Shell Tribe
Carrie Kouba	Office of Public Instruction
Angela McLean	Montana University System
Calli Rusche- Nicholson	Billings Public Schools
Cory Sangrey-Billy	Tribal Colleges

Office of Public Instruction/ Board of Public
Education

McCall Flynn	Joan Franke
Zach Hawkins	Mike Jetty
Christy Mock-Stutz	
Jennifer Stadum	

Guests

Eliza McLaughlin	Sen. Daines' Office
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Members Absent

Rodney Bird	Bureau of Indian Education
Levi Black Eagle	Crow Tribe
Dawn Bishop-Moore	Indian Impact Schools of Montana
Michael Dolson	Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes
Harold Dusty Bull	Blackfeet Tribe
Hilary Gourneau	Tribal Head Start
Megan Gourneau	Fort Peck Tribes
Jeremy MacDonald	School Administrators of Montana

The Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jordann Forster at 9:06 a.m. Roll call was taken, and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Minutes

The minutes of the November 1, 2023, meeting were reviewed. A correction for the location of Montana State University is Bozeman. Dugan Coburn motioned to approve the minutes as corrected and Calli Rusche-Nicholson seconded. Passed by all.

Chairperson Report

No community information.

The letter to the National Education Association was sent and they had a meeting with Jordann Forster and Dugan Coburn and their suggestion was to keep looking for mistakes in curriculum. NEA is working on a response letter.

Chairperson Forster discussed rolls on the MACIE board. She indicated she has not had support from several positions. Jordann indicated she would like a discussion at the next meeting regarding rolls for the board.

New Business

❖ Early Literacy Targeted Intervention Rule Revision

McCall Flynn discussed the new Montana Code ([Title 20, Chapter 7, Part 18](#)) regarding Early Literacy Targeted Interventions, providing students four years to third grade to become more proficient in reading. There is a classroom program for four-year-olds, a Jumpstart summer school program, and a home-based program to foster family and community engagement (which is outside the school). The Board of Public Education was tasked with coming up with frameworks for the programs and evaluation methodology for who would be able to participate. The program will not be a universal program. Students need to be below a trajectory to third-grade reading level. The Jumpstart program is aligned to the early childhood education standards and Montana English Language Arts and Literacy standards.

There will be ANB funding for this, full for the early childhood program and a quarter ANB for the Jumpstart program. There will be \$1,000 per student for the homebased program, which will be done with a contract through the Office of Public Instruction. OPI has hired two employees to work on this, providing guidance and support on the evaluation methodologies once the rules are approved and working on the Request for Proposal process for the homebased programs.

❖ Review of New K-5 Science Ponderosa Pine Curriculum

The lessons for the K-5 Ponderosa Pine integrated unit have been finished and the Indian Education for All (IEFA) unit would like feedback. [Curriculum Unit](#) [Evaluation Survey](#) Jennifer Stadum would especially like to hear about cultural responsiveness, relevancy, and respectfulness. She would also like to know about stories from tribes that may be shared in a responsible manner. There will be teachers who will pilot the curriculum.

❖ IEFA Funding Reporting Requirements

A new platform for reporting ANB funding spending has been developed based on legislation from the 2023 session. This platform will open at the end of January and the report will be due by March 29. An Assurance will also need to be done. The trustee financial summary will still need to be done by September 15 each year. A document has been developed for guidance and contact information if schools have questions.

A [guide for identifying quality IEFA materials](#) has also been developed regarding identification of quality IEFA materials and instructional planning and support from OPI.

❖ Naming Ceremonies in Schools

Dugan Coburn discussed the naming ceremony recently completed and the Facebook post that caused discussion regarding who he is and why he had the ability to give names. Dugan has received the transfer of rights to do the ceremony. The ceremonies may be done in schools with proper protocols and by individuals who have received the rights to do the ceremonies.

Old Business

❖ Update of Goals and In-person Meeting in Billings

Jordann Forster indicated to do the goals when meet in person. She asked if the meeting in March should be person and in Billings to coincide with the IEFA Best Practices Conference.

Iris Kill Eagle motioned to have an in-person meeting in Billings and have it longer than the usual three hours. Dugan Coburn seconded the motion. Passed by all.

By consensus it was decided to start the meeting at 10:30 a.m. and go to no later than 5:00 p.m.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Dugan Coburn motioned to adjourn the meeting and Calli Rusche-Nicholson seconded the motion. Passed by all. The meeting was adjourned at 10:09 a.m.

The next meeting is March 7, 2024, in person in Billings with a Zoom option.



MONTANA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON INDIAN EDUCATION
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**MACIE AGENDA
FULL SESSION
MARCH 7, 2024
ITEM 3
EX-OFFICIO REPORTS**

- ❖ **Superintendent of Public Instruction**
 - Handout 3.1
 - Presentation Summary
 - ✓ OPI FAQ – IEFA Finance Reporting Update
 - ✓ Understanding and Identifying Quality IEFA Materials

Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education

Ex-officio and Indian Education Units Presentation Summaries

March 7, 2024

Presentation	Superintendent of Public Instruction information
Presenter	Rick Wootton
Position Title	Lawyer
Overview/Talking Points for Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on Yellow Kidney court case • Guidance on HB 338, Representative Windy Boy with Indian Education for All
Requested Decision	None
Issue(s) Related to MACIE Goals	Goal Three
Recommendation(s)	None
Handouts	OPI FAQ – IEFA Finance Reporting Update Understanding and Identifying Quality IEFA Materials



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OPI FAQ – IEFA Finance Reporting Update

Indian Education For All (IEFA) is a landmark [provision](#) in the [Montana Constitution](#) that “recognizes the distinct and unique cultural heritage of the American Indians and is committed in its educational goals to the preservation of their cultural integrity.” The Montana Legislature provides IEFA funding to school districts and requires school districts to report IEFA expenditures to the Montana Office of Public Instruction (OPI).

In 2023 the Legislature passed [HB 338](#), which included several new reporting requirements and provided a reduction of future funding for school districts that fail to report expenditures of all IEFA revenue. This frequently asked questions (FAQ) document provides OPI guidance to help school districts navigate the legal and financial landscape for IEFA finance reporting.

What new IEFA provisions for school districts are in HB 338 (2023)?

Although HB 338 must be read in its entirety, the new reporting provisions are in Section 4(4) of the bill and address reporting of instruction and instruction development. Section 4(5) of the bill provides a reduction of, or ineligibility for, future funding for a school district’s failure to report expenditures of all IEFA revenue in the Trustee Financial Summary (TFS).

When do the new IEFA reporting provisions apply to school districts?

Section 6 of the bill provides an effective date of July 1, 2023. Section 7 of the bill provides that the new requirement for reporting of instruction and instruction development applies to IEFA funds for FY 2024 and later. The reporting of annual expenditures is not a new requirement. **The requirement for reduction in funding does not have a later applicability date and, thus, applies to the FY 2024 reporting of the FY 2023 expenditures, which impacts the FY 2025 IEFA funding.**

How might IEFA finance reporting impact future IEFA funding?

If a school district fails to report IEFA expenditures in its TFS, the district “is ineligible for the funding under this section for subsequent school fiscal years until the report is filed.” If a school district fails to report expenditures in its TFS for all IEFA revenue, the “district’s BASE budget and funding under this section for the subsequent fiscal year must be reduced by the amount of funding received that was not spent” on IEFA.

How and when can a school district correct an inaccurate TFS it filed with OPI?

A school district may file a corrected TFS (per ARM 10.10.504) with OPI as soon as the inaccuracy is discovered, but no later than December 10, by submitting a [School Data Error Correction Request Form](#) to opischoolfinance@mt.gov.



Understanding and Identifying Quality IEFA Materials

Are you wanting to increase IEFA (Indian Education for All) integration in your classroom, but not sure where to find materials or concerned about using materials that are inaccurate and inappropriate? You are not alone. Lots of other educator's grapple with this situation as well.

Instructional Planning and support

The OPI IEFA team works collaboratively with tribes, tribal experts, the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education (MACIE) and other tribal members to offer high quality, tribally specific, culturally authentic, and historically accurate classroom materials, curated resources, and instructional planning support. Here is how we can help:

- Many materials are free and available on the [OPI IEFA website](#).
- The OPI IEFA team hosts webinars on the first and third Tuesdays of each month that increase teacher background knowledge, offer content specific curriculum integration ideas, and provide opportunities to ask questions.
- An annual IEFA Best Practices Conference is offered to provide high quality, IEFA specific professional development and instructional design support. Further information about these and other events can be found on the [Upcoming Events/PD page](#) of the IEFA website.

High-Quality Materials

The IEFA team has developed an [IEFA Materials Evaluation Guide](#) which can help you develop a deeper understanding of which IEFA materials are high quality and which ones are not. Once you have a solid understanding, you will be able to increase the number and variety of IEFA resources you utilize in your IEFA teaching and learning activities, enhancing your students' understandings regarding Montana and American Indians.

However, it is reasonable to assume there may be circumstances where you might still be uncertain about the authenticity or appropriateness of a resource. In this situation, the OPI IEFA team advises the following steps of action:

- Utilize the resource evaluation form on **pages 21 and 22 of the OPI IEFA Materials Evaluation Guide** (See link above).
- Consult with an experienced educator, IEFA champion, or IEFA coordinator in your building or your district.
- Check and see if the resource has been reviewed by the [American Indian Children's Literature Blogspot](#). **This is also a great site to review when considering the purchase of new IEFA materials.**
- Contact a member of the OPI IEFA team and ask them if they would recommend the resource or not. Please note that team member office hours can be found on the [Meet The Team page](#) of the IEFA website.



Understanding how to identify and where to find high quality IEFA materials is vital for effective IEFA instruction. Teachers and administrators should always work to improve their resource review and evaluation skills. However, you do not have to do it alone. Our IEFA team is always ready to provide you with the training, materials, and guidance you need or point you to the appropriate place(s).

Please reach out if you have any questions. We are here to support you.

Zach Hawkins, IEFA Director: zachariah.hawkins@mt.gov; 406-444-0708

Mike Jetty, IEFA Specialist: mjetty@mt.gov; 406-444-0720

Jennifer Stadum, IEFA Specialist: jstadum@mt.gov; 406-444-0725





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**MACIE AGENDA
FULL SESSION
MARCH 7, 2024**

ITEM 4

AMERICAN INDIAN EDUCATION ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- ❖ **Tribal Student Achievement and Relations**
 - Handout 4.1
 - Presentation Summary

Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education

Ex-officio and Indian Education Units Presentation Summaries

March 7, 2024

Presentation	Tribal Student Achievement and Relations Unit update
Presenter	Crystal Hickman
Position Title	Tribal Student Achievement Specialist
Overview/Talking Points for Presentation	Tribal Education Summit (youth and tribal leaders) information Work updates
Requested Decision	none
Issue(s) Related to MACIE Goals	Goal 3
Recommendation(s)	None
Handouts	None



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**MACIE AGENDA
FULL SESSION
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ITEM 5
CHAIRPERSON REPORT**

❖ Chairperson Report



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**MACIE AGENDA
FULL SESSION
MARCH 7, 2024
ITEM 6
NEW BUSINESS**

- ❖ **Rolls in MACIE**
 - Handout 6.1
 - Constitution

- ❖ **IEFA Funding Guidance Discussion**

MONTANA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON INDIAN EDUCATION

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

PREAMBLE

The Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education was established by the Board of Public Education and the Office of Public Instruction to function in an advisory capacity for the education of American Indian students in Montana.

The Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education shall be a strong voice for collaborative efforts among tribal, state, and federal organizations, institutions, groups, and agencies for the express purpose of promoting high quality and equitable educational opportunities for all American Indian students in Montana. This includes, but is not limited to, culture, language, and Indian Education for All.

ARTICLE 1

Name of Organization

The name of the organization shall be Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education (MACIE).

ARTICLE II

Purpose

The purpose of MACIE shall be:

1. Advise the Board of Public Education (BPE) and the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OPI) in matters affecting the education of American Indian students, including accreditation, certification, and teacher training;
2. Promote equal educational opportunities and improve the quality of education provided to American Indian students throughout the State of Montana;
3. Advise, monitor, evaluate, and advocate for the implementation of Indian Education for All as defined in Article X, section 1(2) of the Montana Constitution and MCA 20-1-501 for all educational agencies; and
4. Carry out the goals and responsibilities of MACIE, report to BPE and OPI, and complete an annual progress review.

ARTICLE III

Goals

The Goals of the MACIE are:

1. Communication, Collaboration, and Advocacy

Share information concerning respective constituents' needs and issues by presenting matters to the MACIE attention for discussion and action. Relay information regarding outcomes and actionable items to constituents.

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Encourage collaboration by acting as liaisons between OPI and BPE and member organizations in support of Indian education in Montana. Seek participation of Indian people, tribes, and tribal organizations in the educational process.

Ensure Native representation and participation in all matters pertaining to Indian education.

2. Student Success

Explore and promote successful data-driven, research-based innovative strategies, resources, and programs that focus on increasing Indian student achievement.

3. Legislative, Fiscal, and Policy Advocacy

Provide input and recommendations to OPI and BPE regarding fiscal allocations designated for Indian education purposes.

Monitor and advocate legislation, which potentially affects Indian students.

BYLAWS OF MONTANA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON INDIAN EDUCATION

ARTICLE 1 **Membership**

BPE and OPI will jointly make appointments to MACIE based on nominations from Indian tribes, Indian organizations, major education organizations in which Indians participate, and schools where American Indian students and adults attend.

NOTE: Participation on MACIE is voluntary and tribes and organizations invited to participate may decline.

Each of the eight Montana tribal councils shall be invited to select one person to represent its tribe. MACIE will seek participation from three urban areas, Great Falls, Billings, and Missoula, one per area.

Other nominations will be sought from organizations or constituencies that have been identified as playing a key role in the education of American Indians in Montana. These are:

- Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)
- School Administrators of Montana (SAM)
- Indian Impact Schools of Montana (IISM) Board
- Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA) Indian School Board Caucus
- Montana Indian Education Association (MIEA) Board
- Class 7 Teachers
- Urban school district Indian Education Departments

Voting

MACIE will be comprised of 17 voting members consisting of:

- 8 representatives from each Montana tribe
- 3 representatives from urban school district Indian Education Departments
- 1 representative from Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)

- 1 representative from School Administrators of Montana (SAM)
- 1 representative from Indian Impact Schools of Montana (IISM)
- 1 representative from Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA) Indian School Board Caucus
- 1 representative from Montana Indian Education Association
- 1 representative from Class 7 teachers

MACIE shall be comprised of eight ex-officio (non-voting) members consisting of:

- 1 representative from Office of Public Instruction
- 1 representative from Board of Public Education
- 1 representative from Montana University System
- 1 representative from Bureau of Indian Education Schools
- 1 representative from Tribal Head Starts
- 1 representative from Tribal Colleges
- 2 American Indian student representatives nominated by a public school district (1 urban, 1 reservation)

ARTICLE 2 **Officers**

MACIE officers shall consist of a chairperson, vice-chairperson, and secretary elected by MACIE.

ARTICLE 3 **Removal from MACIE**

MACIE members will automatically lose membership with two consecutive unexcused absences from regularly or specially noticed and convened meetings as per Article 10, Section 3. An unexcused absence is one in which a member fails to provide prior notice of absence. In the event of a removal, the MACIE member will be notified and MACIE will request the tribe/organization recommend a new representative.

ARTICLE 4 **Amending the Constitution**

An amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws may be adopted at a regular or special meeting by an approval of no less than nine (9) of the MACIE voting members. Advance notice of the agenda containing a proposal to amend shall be distributed to all MACIE members at least 15 days in advance of the meeting.

However, if a member tribe/organization has an official change of name, this may be made without a vote of the members upon notification from the member tribe/organization.

ARTICLE 5 **Rules of Order**

Robert's Rules of Order Revised shall be used as a guideline on all procedural questions not otherwise specifically stated in the Constitution and Bylaws of MACIE.

ARTICLE 6
Terms and Duties of Officers

- Section 1. Chairperson, vice-chairperson, and secretary shall be elected from and by MACIE at the summer meeting and shall serve for two years. Chairperson and vice-chairperson will be elected in separate years, with the secretary being elected with the chairperson.
- Section 2. The chairperson shall preside at all meetings of MACIE. The chairperson shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. The chairperson or designee will represent and present reports for MACIE at all BPE meetings and other meetings that are deemed important by MACIE.
- Section 3. The vice-chairperson shall assume all duties of the chairperson in the chairperson's absence.
- Section 4. The secretary or designee shall edit all minutes of MACIE meetings and shall provide proper notice of all meetings scheduled. Regular quarterly meetings shall receive 15-days notice. The secretary shall perform such other duties as prescribed by MACIE.

ARTICLE 7
Terms of Members of MACIE

The membership of MACIE will consist of delegate members nominated by their tribe/organization until replaced, unless said member violates Article 3 of MACIE bylaws. Membership will be reaffirmed every five years.

The term of service for student representatives will be two years.

Vacated positions will be filled by each tribe/organization within a reasonable time period.

ARTICLE 8
Duties of Members

MACIE members will be responsible for carrying out the purposes and goals of the Constitution. Members shall bring information to MACIE from their constituents for consideration and report to their constituents.

OPI ex-officio member shall assist MACIE in its efforts to achieve its goals.

ARTICLE 9
Committees and Appointments

Each member will be assigned to an appropriate working committee(s). Special and/or ad hoc committees may be established as necessary. Standing committees are: Communication, Collaboration, and Advocacy; Student Success; and Legislative, Fiscal, and Policy.

The Executive Committee shall consist of the three officers and three voting members appointed by the Chairperson. The Executive Committee shall:

1. Call Executive meetings as deemed necessary;
2. Have the authority to make emergency decisions on behalf of MACIE; and
3. Report back to MACIE and seek reaffirmation of decisions.

ARTICLE 10
Meetings

Regular MACIE meetings shall be convened quarterly. Special meetings may be called at the discretion of MACIE or the executive committee.

Section 1. A quorum for all MACIE meetings shall consist of six (6) voting members in attendance.

Section 2. A quorum for all Executive Committee meetings shall consist of four (4) members.

Section 3. Regular MACIE members will select an alternate representative to serve in their absence. Said alternates shall enjoy all the rights and privileges for the regular and special MACIE meetings. A response shall be returned prior to the meeting date to indicate whether the delegate, the alternate, or no one will be representing the tribe/organization at the meeting.

Approved with Changes
June 9, 2021



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**MACIE AGENDA
FULL SESSION
MARCH 7, 2024
ITEM 7
OLD BUSINESS**

- ❖ **Update of Goals**
 - Handout 7.1
 - 2021 Goals



MONTANA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON INDIAN EDUCATION
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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