



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

MACIE Meeting  
January 5, 2022  
Minutes - Approved

Members Present

Dawn Bishop-Moore	Indian Impact Schools of Montana
Levi Black Eagle	Crow Tribe
Dugan Coburn	Urban – Great Falls
Michelle Crazy	Fort Belknap Tribe
Jason Cummins	Class 7
Michael Dolson	Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes
Jordann Forster	Montana Federation of Public Employees
Megan Gourneau	Fort Peck Tribes
Susie Hedalen	Board of Public Education
Iris Kill Eagle	little Shell Tribe
Jeremy MacDonald	School Administrators of Montana
Angela McLean	Montana University System
Jennifer Smith	Urban – Billings

Office of Public Instruction/  
Board of Public Education

Sharyl Allen	Matthew Bell
McCall Flynn	Joan Franke
Carrie Gopher	Zach Hawkins
Michelle Henson	Julie Murgel
Jennifer Stadum	Donnie Wetzel

Members Absent

Rodney Bird	Bureau of Indian Education
Norma Bixby	Northern Cheyenne Tribe
Harold Dusty Bull	Blackfeet Tribe
Melissa Hammett	Urban - Missoula
Dr. Richard Littlebear	Tribal College
Voyd St. Pierre	Chippewa Cree Tribe
Riley Werk	Youth - Reservation

The Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education (MACIE) meeting was called to order at 9:11 by Chairperson Jennifer Smith. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and roll call was taken.

Carrie Gopher, American Indian Student Achievement Director, and Matthew Bell, Language and Culture Immersion Specialist introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the November 20, 2021 meeting were reviewed. Jennifer Smith indicated under regalia the second sentence needed to be clarified. It was decided to change it to “. . . found any evidence that dress codes would supersede the regalia law.”

Dugan Coburn motioned that we approve the minutes as amended. Michael Dolson seconded the motion. Approved by all.

## Chairperson report

Chairperson Smith indicated she was pleased with the conversations MACIE had with the American Indian Minority Achievement (AIMA) Council in December and the possible partnership. She indicated it is nice to see American Indian student success at the university level is increasing.

Angela McLean said the council is looking forward to continuing joint efforts and discussing what MACIE and AIMA can do instead of what they cannot do.

Don Wetzel inquired as to whether or not there is student voice on the AIMA council.

Others talked about the meeting and the need to continue the connections between the groups.

Chairperson Smith also brought up the youth membership. Iris Kill Eagle will speak with Riley Werk about doing a ten-to-twenty-minute presentation at MACIE. Dugan Coburn will talk with the two students from Great Falls who he thought would be a good choice but choose not to participate due to the length of the meeting.

## Old Business

### ➤ Language Statement

MACIE has not heard back from the Office of Public Instruction (OPI) Executive Office

Jason Cummins indicated he is thankful for The Board of Public Education's (BPE) acknowledgement of this statement. He indicated we need to hear from OPI on what they plan to do regarding making schools aware of the laws regarding the use of Indigenous language use.

Jeremy MacDonald suggested OPI could let the schools know through the Compass (monthly bulletin). Also suggested the Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA) could put it in their information to schools. Dr. Cummins also mentioned the School Administrators of Montana (SAM) is aware that BPE has acted on this, and Dr. Kirk Miller is waiting for executives at OPI to act at which time they will get the information out to school administrators.

Chairperson Smith asked if it would be good for her and Jason to send this to the executive team. Julie Murgel said that would be good to send it to Superintendent Arntzen and Sharyl Allen along with copying it to Carrie Gopher, Don Wetzel, Matt Bell, and her.

### ➤ MACIE Member concerns

The list of member concerns previously developed in 2020 were reviewed, and it was discussed whether to update these. It was decided to keep the concerns and update the document to list the goals and then categorize the concerns based on the goals.

### ➤ Regalia Statement

Jordann Forster indicated she has updated the position statement in the form of the language statement. Ms. Forster was intentional about putting teacher/principal education programs in the ask so programs will provide information on this. She is waiting on a legal summary

The subcommittee will meet again to refine the position statement.

It was suggested that RISE do a video regarding this policy so students know about their rights.

#### New Business

##### ➤ Potential In-person MACIE meeting

It was decided that April would be a good time to have an in-person meeting, possibly in conjunction with Montana Indian Education Association if that takes place.

Sharyl Allen said OPI would provide the funding for this.

#### Public Comment

Don Wetzel let the council know a webpage would be developed regarding culture and language. An Elder and Wisdom Council has been set up. A meeting was held in October and another one will be in December.

Jordann motioned to adjourn the meeting. Dugan Coburn seconded the motion. Passed by all. The meeting was adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

/s/ Dawn Bishop-Moore

Approved February 9, 2022