



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

MACIE Meeting  
April 6, 2022  
Minutes – Approved

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
Michelle Crazy	Fort Belknap Tribes
Jason Cummins	Class 7
Michael Dolson	Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes
Jordann Forster	Montana Federation of Public Employees
Carrie Gopher	Office of Public Instruction
Megan Gourneau	Fort Peck Tribes
Susie Hedalen	Board of Public Education
Iris Kill Eagle	little Shell Tribe
Jeremy MacDonald	School Administrators of Montana
Voyd St. Pierre	Chippewa Cree Tribe
Jennifer Smith	Urban – Billings

Office of Public Instruction/  
Board of Public Education

Matthew Bell	Tara Boulanger
Brett Carter	
Susan Court	McCall Flynn
Joan Franke	Nicole Frieling
Mike Jetty	Donnie Wetzel

Guests

Dylan Klapmeier

Members Absent

Rodney Bird	Bureau of Indian Education
Harold Dusty Bull	Blackfeet Tribe
Melissa Hammett	Urban – Missoula
Dr. Richard Littlebear	Tribal College
Angela McLean	Montana University System
Riley Werk	Youth – Reservation

The Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education (MACIE) meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jennifer Smith at 9:05 a.m. The pledge of allegiance was said and roll call was taken.

Minutes

The minutes were reviewed. No corrections were noted. Dugan Coburn motioned to approve the minutes as written and Jordann Lankford seconded the motion. Approved by all.

## Chairperson Report

Jennifer Smith updated the committee on what expecting for the day.

There was discussion regarding organizations which need to have representation.

## Old Business

### ➤ Regalia Statement

The draft position statement and suggested resolution were reviewed. Suggestions were made for changes for both documents.

Jeremy MacDonald motioned to approve the resolution as updated for sending to the Superintendent of Public Instruction (Superintendent) and the Board of Public Education (BPE) as updated. Jason Cummins seconded the motion. Passed by all.

Jason Cummins motioned to approve the position statement as updated, and Levi Black Eagle seconded the motion. Passed by all.

Jennifer Smith said she would ask the Superintendent's office to put this in the monthly Compass and reach out to the Montana School Board Association (MSTBA).

## New Business

### ➤ Class 7 Licensure Requirements Revision

Revisions to Chapter 57, teacher licensure, have been opened. The Superintendent has made proposed revisions regarding Class 7 licensure to change it to a lifetime license. Also, "An Introduction to Indian Education for All in Montana" would need to be done by all who wish to receive this license.

The BPE has received mixed comments including one at an legislative interim committee that Class 7 license holders should be held to be held to other standards. The deadline for comments is April 8.

After mixed comments from MACIE members, Jason Cummins made a motion for Class 7 licensure to only require tribal delegate signature on the initial application and for all professional development opportunities be acceptable for renewal of the license. The five-year renewal process would then remain in place. Jordann Forster seconded this motion.

After more discussion, especially regarding still allowing tribes to be involved in the renewal process, Jason Cummins amended his motion to add a sentence at the end that any tribe could make additional requirements for renewal. Dugan Coburn seconded this amendment.

A vote was taken regarding allowing the amendment of the motion. Passed by all.

The full motion – initial motion and additional amendment – was voted on. Passed by all.

### ➤ Updates to Member Concerns/Goals/Role of OPI

- Review of current data

Susan Court provided information on the Youth Risk Behavior Survey. Trends are going down except depression and texting or emailing while driving – Montana was first in the nation in this in 2019 and it went up in 2021.

Nicole Frieling discussed the research study project regarding what influences the American Indian Achievement Gap in Montana. The first part was focus groups with 42 individuals across six school rolls. These interviews pointed to the roll of culture and self-identity as being important for influencing the gap. The project is currently disseminating a survey to schools (adults) and students. Brett Carter said the survey portion of the project is projected to end this fall. IRBs need to be secured from the tribes before the surveys can be distributed. The final part of the project will be collaboration with indigenous scholars on these findings for applications in schools.

Jeremy MacDonald talked about the National Indian Education Survey (NIES). Montana has been not consistent in participating in this survey. The most current year, Montana did not participate. Mr. MacDonald will talk with Ashley McGrath regarding Montana participating in this survey.

- Think tank discussion on topics for OPI collaboration

Jennifer Smith reviewed the goals and member concerns associated with each goal. The following are what has been decided to discuss with the Superintendent at the meeting on May 11.

- ✓ Graduate rates/dropouts
  - Count fifth year students
  - Other options such as credit recovery, project-based learning, block scheduling, proficiency-based learning
  - Disparate discipline – restorative practices and trauma informed programs
  - Different kinds of diplomas (make sure school districts know they can have their different requirements) – The BPE only requires 20 credits for graduation
  - Attendance policies – deaths, family illness, work
  - Make curriculum relevant, possibly as options/replacement to required English, History, etc. – diverse population seen in curriculum, regalia
  - Greater Career and Technical Education options
  - Dual enrollment utilizing tribal college personnel
  - Include Indian Education for All staff at MACIE meetings
  - Short staffed – can kids fill roles for pay, i.e., high school kids
  - Transportation
  - Teacher/administration retention – school board leadership
  - Food/housing/safety needs – lack of housing and multiple family housing
  - American Indian Student Achievement Task Force
- ✓ Mental health
  - Therapists with American Indian cultural sensitivity/values
  - Grief processing

- Addressing/teaching historical trauma and culturally responsive practices to educators and administrators
- Telehealth, mobile mental health
- How to reduce stigma
- Restorative practice and trauma-informed practice

Jordann Forster motioned that the American Indian Student Achievement Task Force be a standing agenda item, Jeremy MacDonald seconded. Passed by all.

Jeremy MacDonald will continue to attend these task force meetings, and if he cannot, he will ask another member to attend.

#### Public Comment

No comments

The next meeting will be May 11. It will be an outreach meeting to OPI .

Levi Black Eagle motioned to adjourn the meeting and Jordan Forster seconded the motion. Passed by all. The meeting was adjourned at 3:23 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_/s/ Dawn Bishop-Moore\_\_\_\_\_

Approved May 11, 2022