



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

MACIE Meeting
April 4, 2023
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
Jonathan Eagleman	Chippewa Cree Tribe
Jordann Forster	Montana Federation of Public Employees Tribal Head Start
Hilary Gourneau	Fort Peck Tribes
Megan Gourneau	Board of Public Education
Susie Hedalen	Little Shell Tribe
Iris Kill Eagle	Montana University System
Angela McLean	Billings Public Schools
Calli Rusche-Nicholson	
John Stiffarm	Class 7
Don Wetzel	Office of Public Instruction

Guests

Chelsie McKee	Fort Peck Head Start
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Office of Public Instruction/ Board of Public Education

Elsie Arntzen	Matthew Bell
Joan Franke	Zach Hawkins
Mike Jetty	Jay Phillips
Annette Young	

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
Melissa Hammett	Urban – Missoula
Jeremy MacDonald	School Administrators of Montana
Cory Sangrey-Billy	Tribal Colleges
John Stiffarm	Class 7

The Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education (MACIE) meeting was called to order at 9:19 a.m. Welcome words were provided by Norma Bixby and roll call was taken.

Minutes

The minutes of the February 1, 2023, meeting were reviewed. No corrections were made. Norma Bixby motioned to approve them as written and Iris Kill Eagle seconded the motion. Passed by all.

Reports

❖ Indian Education for All

Zach Hawkins and Mike Jetty provided information regarding the in-person Indian Education for All (IEFA) Best Practices Conference and ongoing initiatives, including virtual conference, student Essential Understandings video project, grants, webinars, website updates, and publications creation updates.

❖ Montana University System

Angela McLean expressed continued appreciation for MACIE and the Montana University System's (MUS) seat at the table. Jordann Forster was the keynote Grow Your Own educator event with students from Browning, Havre, Great Falls schools who will be becoming classroom teachers.

Enrollment of American Indian students is growing on all campuses. The last two years had the highest retention. There has been an 18% growth in completions from last year to this year.

❖ Superintendent

Superintendent Elsie Arntzen provided information on the tribal education, the Montana Alternative Assessment Testing Program, the Native youth and Tribal Nations conferences, American Indian graduation and dropout rates, use of COVID funding to produce a library of language curriculum, IEFA Rotunda Day. Jonathan Jay Eagleman talked about his new position.

New Business

❖ Budget Discussion

Jay Phillips discussed the budget process, how to fund the MACIE meetings, and previous funding to MACIE, and how much time was taken by Office of Public Instruction (OPI) staff to help with MACIE. OPI will need to know how many in-person meetings will be in the next year. Susie Hedalen indicated she was disheartened that OPI is breaking out time for OPI employees when doing MACIE work.

Norma Bixby indicated there has never been a question before regarding funding MACIE meetings.

Chairperson Report

Chairperson Jordann Forster congratulated Cory Sangrey-Billy on MACIE membership for the tribal colleges and Jay Eagleman's new position at OPI.

MACIE members shared community events.

Jordann discussed her dissertation regarding the effects of IEFA on Native students and their engagement with schoolwork.

Jordann started to review the agenda, and the meeting devolved into the agenda.

Old Business

❖ Lessons review

Chairperson Jordann Forster does not know where want to go with the Missing and Murdered Indigenous People, Trauma-Informed Restorative practices, and Grief Resources documents presented to MACIE previously and if there needs more discussion.

There was no discussion on this. Donnie Wetzel indicated the direction the Tribal Student Achievement, Relations, and Resiliency Unit will be taking regarding student achievement.

New Business

❖ Goals

Chairperson Jordann Forster asked for suggestions on goals. Suggestions:

- ✓ Native based curriculum (get tribal council member involved)
- ✓ Repository from tribes of people resources
- ✓ tribal government
- ✓ graduation rate
- ✓ standards based education
- ✓ testing of Indian education content
- ✓ tribes produce their own standards
- ✓ protocols
- ✓ how to support comprehensive schools
- ✓ attendance barriers

The goals selected were an update on the IEFA lawsuit, update on [achievement data document](#), and what schools are getting deficiency notices year after year.

❖ Meeting Schedule

Discussion regarding the MACIE meeting schedule for 2024 happened. It was decided the in-person meetings (with Zoom option) should sometimes be held on reservations. The in-person meeting will be six hours and the online ones will be three hours.

The schedule for the rest of 2023 is May and June (Zoom), August (Zoom), October (in-person), and November (Zoom).

The schedule for 2024 decided through consensus:

- ✓ January (Zoom)
- ✓ February – April (in-person, depending on when and where IEFA Best Practices Conference is)
- ✓ May – Zoom only
- ✓ June – Zoom only
- ✓ August – (in-person, Billings, to coincide with Crow Fair)
- ✓ October – (in person, Helena)
- ✓ November (Zoom only)

❖ Class 7

