

Tribal Nations Education Committee (TNEC)  
Minutes ~ Open Meeting  
April 13, 2023 ~ 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
Zoom Host: White Earth

PARTICIPANTS: Jennifer Murray – Fond du Lac (TNEC Chair)  
Maria Burnett – Grand Portage (Vice-Chair)  
Leanne Hoffman – Bois Forte  
Jackie Probst – Lower Sioux  
Glenda Martin – Red Lake  
Dana Goodwin Williams – White Earth  
Dan Morgan – Shakopee  
Edye Washington – Greater MN  
Billie Annette – Minnesota Chippewa Tribe  
Paul Dressen – Excused  
Laurie Harper – Excused

GUESTS: Shannon Geshick, MIAC Executive Director  
Commissioner Dennis Olson, Office of Higher Education  
Dr. Jane Harstad, MDE OIE Director  
Anjanette Parisien, MDE OIE Indigenous Specialist  
Sam Zimmerman, MDE OIE Indigenous Specialist  
Kimberly Brenden, MDE OIE Administrative Support  
Graham Hartley, MDE ESSA Tribal Consultant & District Support  
Bobbie Burnham, MDE Academic Standards  
John Bobolink, SPPS IE Director  
K Perkins

- I. Jennifer called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.
- II. Glenda moved to approve the agenda. Second by Dan. Motion passed.
- III. Presenters:
  - a. Shannon Geshick, MIAC Executive Director:
    - Updates:
      - Introduced new staff – Opalina.
      - Organizing AI day on the Hill (scheduled May 10<sup>th</sup>) – working with several groups on this. Invites/welcomes TNEC involvement.
      - There will be a student panel - requesting recommendations for students to participate.
      - Discussion regarding having students who speak the language.

- MIAC meetings are scheduled May 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> with White Earth hosting at Shooting Star.
- MIAC's website has been hard to access for some – Shannon was not aware of this but will check.
- TRUTH Project Report is available on MIAC website.
- Budget update provided.
- Shannon will send a summary of her report.

b. Commissioner Dennis Olson, OHE:

- Updates:
  - Proposals on behalf of Native students – key proposals are present in both bills.
  - House bill fully through process – passed last night. (Senate tomorrow at finance and to floor next week.)
  - Full funding for MN Indian Scholars Program – tuition waiver.
  - Tribal college funding (1 million per tribal college) – retain existing funds.
  - New position to be filled – OHE Tribal Liaison.
  - Hoping to propose joint consultation with MDE (haven't yet discussed with MDE Commissioner.)
  - Josiah Litant is the new P-20 Executive Director at OHE (he met with TNEC yesterday.)

c. Anjanette Parisien and Sam Zimmerman, MDE OIE Indigenous Specialists:

- Updates:
  - JPA curricular resource update.
  - Ongoing collaborations and connection with Indigenous Education State Leaders Network.
  - Will be presenting at MIEA conference next week (invites any TNEC members to participate.)
  - A written report was provided/emailed prior to the meeting.

d. Dr. Jane Harstad, MDE OIE Director:

- Updates:
  - Former MDE Deputy Commissioner Burrage has moved on to the Governor's Office and is serving as Chief Equity Officer.
  - OIE will present a report at MIEA next week. Commissioner Jett will be in attendance.
  - MITTP: Tyler Livingston would like TNEC input on funding for grantees and who will receive the competitive grants.
  - Question: Does the grant to all who have teacher prep programs? Jane will check who receives the grant opportunity notification.

- Dennis offered that OHE would be happy to disseminate through their channels.
- TNEC MITTP Subcommittee: Edye, Dana, Jackie and Billie. Subcommittee will meet before the next TNEC meeting.
- MITTP will be an item on the next TNEC agenda.
- Discussion on Title IV Part B 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant. The deadline for application is May 1<sup>st</sup>. Tribal consultation is needed for schools applying. Districts should include in the application how specifically this grant benefit AI students. Note: During TNEC's meeting yesterday the discussion included asking schools to send their plans 2 weeks prior – with consultations to be scheduled at the May and June meetings (thinking the deadline was in June.) Jane will see if the May 1<sup>st</sup> tribal consultation piece can be moved to a later date. (Check TNEC members who will be at MIEA – this may come up during the breakout session.)
- Tribally controlled BIE schools (FDL, WE, LL, ML) – how to get the message to MDE that they should have access to all funding streams that are available to charter schools and others. Conversation is needed/a meeting scheduled to how this works and why tribally controlled BIE schools are being missed/excluded. Melanie will check with Commissioner Jett if data is needed and will let Jen know on Monday.

IV. Other Business:

- Midwest Indian Immersion Network: A survey has been sent out and question was to TNEC if they had any info. Edye and Jackie had info and it was researched and is ok.
- Melanie informed that TNEC grant extension was submitted this morning and the Commissioner has it. Once signed it will be sent to Paul (PIIC is the fiscal agent.)
- Next TNEC meeting Melanie will send request to talk about tribal relations training for MDE.

V. Jackie moved to adjourn. Second by Leanne. Meeting adjourns at 12:31 p.m.