

Tribal Nations Education Committee (TNEC)

July 20, 2023 ~ Minutes

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Host: MN Department of Education

Zoom: White Earth

TNEC: Jennifer Murray – Fond du Lac (TNEC Chair)  
Dana Goodwin Williams – White Earth  
Jackie Probst – Lower Sioux  
Laurie Harper – Leech Lake  
Zhawin Gonzalez – TC Metro  
Beth Tepper – TC Metro  
Paul Dressen – Prairie Island (virtual)  
Leanne Hoffman – Bois Forte alt. (virtual)  
Vondalee Carr – Bois Forte (virtual)  
Raina Killspotted – Mille Lacs  
Billie Annette – MN Chippewa Tribe

MDE: Dr. Jane Harstad, OIE Director  
Isabella Griffin, AI Education Aid Program Manager  
Betsy Blackhawk, OIE Program Manager  
Kimberly Brenden, OIE Administrative Support  
Anjanette Parisien, OIE Indigenous Specialist  
Sam Zimmerman, Indigenous Specialist  
Hannah Quinn (for Erin Bailey) – Gov’s. Children’s Cabinet  
Bobbie Burnham  
Anita Fineday

MIAC: Shannon Geshick, Executive Director

Guests: Jennifer Simon, MPLS Public School IE Director

- I. Jennifer called the meeting to order at 10:13 a.m.
- II. Jackie moved to approve the agenda. Second by Laurie. Motion passed.
- III. Laurie moved to the minutes of June 21 and 22, 2023. Second by Jackie. Motion passed.
- IV. Presenters:

- a. Hannah Quinn, Anita Fineday, and Bobbie Burhnam – Governor’s Children’s Cabinet (for Erin Bailey, Asst. Commissioner and Executive Director of the Governor’s Children Cabinet.)
  - Power Point presentation regarding establishment of Department of Children, Youth and Families.
  - Would TNEC like to have this department as a standing TNEC agenda item?
  - The Department of Children, Youth and Families has a website.
  
- b. Shannon Geshick, MIAC Executive Director.
  - MIAC grants: 2 live RFPs (check website).
  - TNEC recommends Jane be on Children, Youth and Families planning.
  - Direct funding to tribes – who to contact (Keegan and Skylar?)
  - Slow email communication responses – cc Shannon to emails.
  - Request written report early/timely – August report is done and Jen will send.
  - Shannon will check if TNEC report can be moved to follow MDE Commissioner. (TNEC is not a department entity.)
  - Next MIAC meeting is August 16-18, 2023 at Prairie Island.
  
- c. OHE Commissioner Dennis Olson.
  - Had travel conflicts (Note: a written report has been sent to TNEC.)
  
- d. Anjanette Parisien & Sam Zimmerman, MDE OIE Indigenous Specialists.
  - IEFA legislation (needs assessment) survey reviewed. Revisions are needed/is not ready to go out.
  - The survey will be for all – input from parents, teachers, students/former students, etc.
  - MDE will host a zoom meeting August 2<sup>nd</sup> from 2-3 p.m.
  
- e. Dr. Jane Harstad, MDE OIE Director
  - Presented AI Education Aid Guidance document. Requests TNEC let her know if any changes/adjustments are needed.
  - TNEC reps needed on the following committees:  
*Genocide/Holocaust* – Jennifer, Laurie and Beth; *Ethnic Studies* – Dana and Jackie; *Computer Science* – Zhawin. Note: More people can be added if interested.
  
- V. Other Business:
  - Add to August TNEC agenda:
    - IEFA survey.
    - Focus group with Dr. David Beaulieu (August 16<sup>th</sup>).

- **Add Jennifer Dugan/Academic Standards as a standing TNEC agenda item for closed/executive session meetings.**
- Curriculum director's meeting is scheduled for October 10, 2023 from 7:30 – 8:30 a.m. OR 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.
- **October TNEC meeting will be changed to October 11-12, 2023 because the original date conflicts with NIEA.**
- Melanie Franks – Tribal Relations
- Mascot – tribes are still working on this.
  - Sleepy Eye and Esko will not submit an exception.
- P20: Edye Washington TNEC representative with Paul Dressen as alternate.

VI. Adjournment (4:30)