

Tribal Nations Education Committee (TNEC)
Draft Minutes ~ Open Meeting
August 18, 2022 ~ 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Zoom Host: White Earth

PARTICIPANTS:

TNEC: Jennifer Murray – Fond du Lac ~ TNEC Chair
Maria Burnett – Grand Portage ~ TNEC Vice Chair
Toby Stephens – Grand Portage Tribal Council
Dana Goodwin Williams – White Earth
Laurie Harper – Leech Lake
Jackie Probst – Lower Sioux
Jesse Kodet – Lower Sioux (Alternate)
Baabitaw Boyd – Mille Lacs
Paul Dressen – Prairie Island
Edye Washington – Greater MN
Brook LaFloe – TC Metro
Billie Annette – MN Chippewa Tribe

MDE: Dr. Jane Harstad, Director Office of Indian Education
Melanie Franks, Tribal Liaison
Anjanette Parisien, OIE Indigenous Education Specialist
Sam Zimmerman, OIE Indigenous Education Specialist
Kimberly Brenden, OIE Office Administration Specialist
Bobbie Burnham, Assistant Commissioner
Graham Hartley, ESSA Tribal Consultation and District Support
Alex Liuzzi, PELSB Executive Director
Jennifer Dugan, Director of Academic Standards, Instruction & Assessment
Becky Gerdes

MIAC: Shannon Geshick, Executive Director

Other Guests: Danyika Leonard, Policy Director for Education Evolving
John Bobolink, SPPS Indian Education Director
Waquin Preston, NIEA

- I. Jennifer called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m.

- II. Laurie moved to approve the agenda with additions. Second by Baabitaw. Motion passed.

III. Presentations:

- a. **11:00 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.** Alex Liuzzi, PELSB Executive Director
- PELSB discussion including licensing, partnership, collaboration and communication.
 - PELSB – partner and collaborate with TNEC to increase AI teachers. OLA – nothing in it to hold state agencies accountable for this. Suggest TNEC read through OLA Audit.
 - Alex: PELSB needs to improve communication with TNEC; here to listen and take back to staff to move things forward.
 - How can PELSB help shift and realign teacher prep?
 - Teacher testing: Remove barriers of testing; change scores to be more equitable; look at data and passing rates, testing exam sites.
 - There are 40 licensures – can TNEC get a copy of these? Yes.
 - How is race and ethnicity determined? Self-identified.
 - There is testing voucher to pay for testing exam.
 - PELSB identifies with fed definition.
 - Concern we lose AI with federal definition.
 - Cultural competency – 16 hours with 8 hours specific to AI history and culture – language is vague.
 - Miigwech to PELSB for letting know if teachers had disciplinary action. Ethics person involved with complains.
 - PELSB Bylaws: (include committee?) to increase indigenous teachers of color. Who serves on this committee? There are 3 members (Miley, Angela, Rueben). There are no indigenous educators on the board. PELSB advocating to add more.
 - How does PELSB reach out to TNEC? There has been some outreach in the past but needs more. Yelena Bailey, Director of Ed. Policy. (651) 539-4196.
- b. **11:25 a.m. – 11:55 a.m.** Jennifer Dugan, Director Academic Standards, Instruction and Assessment
- PP shared.
 - PE standards 22-23 school year.
 - Social Studies and ELA is in rule-making process.
 - Can TNEC get a copy of revised standards and benchmarks?
 - Will send link to standards as they are today/now? Jennifer Dugan will check on this
 - Who writes SONAR? Can TNEC be part of this? Internal group at MDE. There's a template for all SONARS – details current, proposed and replacement.
 - Science standards are out publicly.
 - Admin. Law Judge is retiring.
 - Commissioner Mueller shared with MIAC that all work stopped on the Social Studies Standards.
 - Continuing work on the SONAR – compiles work of the committee.
 - Only standards go through rulemaking and are included in SONAR.

- What is process for standards audit? MDE doesn't conduct audit for all standards.
- c. MIAC Executive Director Shannon Geshick
- Next quarterly meeting dates are November 14-16 and will be held in Red Lake.
 - Meeting will be 100% in person.
 - TNEC meeting scheduled the same week. Billie will reach out to Glenda to see if she can set up meeting space and a block of rooms. It was also noted the quarterly meeting with Commissioner Mueller is scheduled that week too (will check with her tomorrow's meeting if she can meet with TNEC at Red Lake since she will most likely be in attendance for MIAC.)
- d. Commissioner Dennis Olson, Office of Higher Education
- Dennis not in attendance. A written report will be sent later.
- e. Dr. Jane Harstad, MDE OIE Director
- ESSA consultation dates in the fall (October 24-27, 2022) will be virtual. Jane will set this up.
 - A couple districts claimed that affirmations have the wrong dates – the dates are accurate.
 - An informational email will be sent to districts who consult with tribes telling them which tribes they are to consult with.
 - School profiles for ESSA government to government consultation.
 - Jen added gifted and talented.
 - Number of AI staff at MDE.
 - How much funding (all) is received for AI kids?
 - Has staff of OIE grown since last consultation? Working on this.
 - Jane will send organization chart. What did the chart look like back in 2003?
 - Data system collecting info for early childhood.
 - Jane will note when federal count is used.
 - Why is special education division in MDE still using federal ID count? It is in federal law – reason it is used.
 - Will work to use state definition moving forward.
 - MITTP
 - Mankato is a new grantee.
 - There are now 6 grantees. Jane will send spreadsheet.
 - SPPS should be part of Augsburg grant.
 - Can we get a breakdown of spending (not names of students but how it's broken down? Yes.)
 - \$49,000 available to spend.
 - June 30th end of fiscal year and an end-of-year report will be sent.
 - Tyler worked on report.
- f. Anjanette Parisien and Sam Zimmerman MDE OIE Indigenous Education Specialists

- Presentation – sent a summary of activities.
- COMPASS – Anjaette will send link to Monica to get on October TNEC agenda.
- If a school asks for guidance documents, what should they use? Any examples would be helpful. Duluth/Edye was mentioned as having resources/recommendations.
- Anjanette will make revisions to the org chart.
- Will collaborate with Sam’s division and how she can support.
- WASH summary.
- RFP: Jane, Angela and Sam are working on this and will work with TNEC.
- Ongoing communication about intellectual property (see language proposed.)
Note: There was discussion about this during yesterday’s closed meeting. TNEC individual tribal and legal review of this and get input.

IV. Other:

a. TNEC Executive Assistant Job Description

- Review and discussion of draft.
- Pay is \$55,000-65,000 depending on experience and qualifications.
- Add that it is remote.
- Office supplies and technology will be provided.
- PIIC signed contract.
- Travel is included.
- If hire lives close to a tribe – will there be in-kind office space? Something to be considered. Conversation with tribes on this.
- Dana and Laurie will work on this and then post.
- Baabitaw moved to approve job description. Second by Laurie. Motion passed.

b. Danyika Leonard, Education Evolving:

- Danyika was on the social standards committee.
- Debrief of standards conversation.
- Asks if SONAR info is sent to TNEC can it be shared with her. Also, she asks if we learn if others can be part of SONAR.
- Ethnic Studies Coalition – would like TNEC/TNEC member be part of this board.
- Hearing next Thursday – new teacher practices draft. Features anti-racist language. (R4615?) Danyika will send.

c. Waquin Preston – NIEA:

- NIEA will be hiring a Legislative Director position stationed in Washington D.C. – is not yet posted. More discussion as to what would be under this position. If TNEC has any recommendations send to Waquin or Diana.
- South Dakota a battle going on re standards; too much NA content- now reposted.

V. Billie motioned to adjourn. Second by Maria. Meeting adjourned at 3:01 p.m.