

Tribal Nations Education Committee (TNEC)  
Draft Minutes  
August 20, 2020 ~ 10:00 a.m.  
Host: Bois Forte via Zoom

Participants: Jennifer Murray – Fond du Lac (TNEC Chair)  
Maria Burnett – Grand Portage (TNEC Vice-Chair)  
Travis Vake – Bois Forte  
Leanne Hoffman – Bois Forte  
Laurie Harper – Leech Lake  
Jackie Probst – Lower Sioux  
Paul Dressen – Prairie Island  
Beth Tepper – Shakopee  
Ron Buckanaga – White Earth  
Dana Goodwin – White Earth  
Davis Isham – Twin Cities Metro  
Billie Annette – MCT  
Unable to attend: Edye Washington – Greater MN

Dr. Jane Harstad, Director – MDE Office of Indian Education  
Shannon Geshick, Executive Director – MIAC  
Janelle Johnson, Tribal Liaison – N. Sky Ctr. Of Excellence  
Sara George – MDE ESEA/ESSA Title I Program Specialist  
Dr. Kirsten Rewey – MDE Quantitative Analyst  
Doug Paulson – MDE Director of Academic Standards  
Leigh Nida – MDE Literary Specialist  
Kristen Aeikens – MDE OIE  
Guthrie Capossela – MDE OIE Indian Education Specialist  
Megan Arriola – MDE Government Relations  
Shana Morse – MDE Government Relations  
Jennifer Wazlawik

- I. Jenn called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.
  - TNEC quorum is present.
  
- II. Approval of Agenda:
  - **Motion by Travis to approve the agenda. Second by Beth. Motion passed.**
  
- III. Approval of July 16, 202 Minutes:

- **Motion by Maria to approve July 16, 2020 minutes. Second by Ron. Motion passed.**

IV. Old Business:

a. Curriculum Subcommittee:

- No updates.

b. Website:

- Dana will do updates on membership listing.

c. Follow-up from last meeting:

- BIE School Boards allowed to participate in MN School Board Association: Jane recently reached out asking about this, but no response has not yet been received. By the next TNEC meeting we will have an answer.
- Social Studies Standards Committee: Jenn received a letter from Commissioner Ricker (shared with TNEC) about the selection process. MDE will do better going forward. The AI participants on this committee are:
  - Edye Washington – TNEC reserved seat
  - Travis Vake – TNEC reserved seat
  - Beth Tepper – TNEC reserved seat
  - Ron Buckanaga – TNEC reserved seat
  - Maria Burnett – MDE application selected
  - Dana Goodwin – MDE application selected
  - Jackie Probst – MDE application selected
  - Joyce Shingobe – MDE application selected
- Tribal Consultation:
  - Letters have been sent to tribes for government to government consultation (from Commissioner Ricker to Tribal Leaders.) Not all TNEC members have received copies of the letter. TNEC requests letters also be sent to Tribal Education Directors and TNEC members.
  - In determining formal TNEC consultation with MDE: Commissioner should fill out the agenda request form.
- Survey assistance identifying families from Ojibwe, Dakota and Cherokee (and connecting them to MDE): What were the results? Jane will get results and how they were used. (Comment: Survey was to be given to 10 families from each of these three tribal nations –

with such a small sample, no decisions/determinations should be made.)

V. New Business:

a. Guest – Dr. Kirsten Rewey, MDE Quantitative Analyst:

- Discussion on reporting options for identifying AI students on MN Report Card. (See document provided with charts and numbers.)
- Accurate identification helps with funding.
- TNEC does not want to lose students by checking boxes that end up excluding them as AI.
- Conversations/recommendations TNEC had from prior meetings on this included having AI be the default category where if AI is checked along with any other ethnicity, the student is automatically counted as AI (whereas now that student would fall into a “2 or more races” category.)
- Include tribal members from all 50 states and Canada.

b. Guests – Doug Paulson & Leigh Nida (Academic standards):

- 38 members on this committee. Maria served on the ELA standards committee.
- See document Doug mailed regarding anchor standards and benchmarks.
- Curriculum development & support will be reviewed/revised for the 20124-2025 school year (implementing standards by this date.)
- Check the wording and add recommendations.
- This is the first-time anchor standards has Dakota and Anishinaabe included (add “historical and contemporary.”)
- Doug will create and send tomorrow a google doc for TNEC to revise/edit/add recommended language.
- Can language be imbedded into this document?
- TNEC will review and make recommendations on the google doc and then review at the September TNEC meeting to formally approve.

- Doug shared the deadline is September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- c. Megan Arriola, MDE Legislative Coordinator:
- Conversation about government relations reaching out to tribes; IE educators (virtual meetings were scheduled for MIEA and TNEC.)
  - This is a new process; Megan is the contact person.
  - MIEA is a good reach out group but is not the consultative group listed in state statute.
  - Recommended review of the TNEC position paper.
  - Shana added they are looking for a broad selection; she did see the position paper on the website and will take time to focus on it.
  - Recommendation: they coordinate another TNEC meeting; work with Jane and Billie.
- d. Dr. Jane Harstad, MDE OIE Director:
- School districts should be having tribal consultation re distance learning plans before start of the school year.
  - Letters were sent out regarding this – this appears to not be happening.
  - Districts who do not schedule tribal consultations will get a letter from the Commissioner asking how they can assist to set them up.
  - Let Jane know which districts have not consulted as well as any who have held them or have them scheduled.
  - Some schools have submitted plans without consultation.
- e. Shannon Geshick, MIAC Executive Director:
- Had to leave before her time on the agenda.
  - TNEC report will be done for the MIAC meeting scheduled August 28<sup>th</sup> and Jenn will be presenting.
- f. Guthrie Capossela, MDE OIE IE Specialist/MITTP:
- See document re 122A.63 Grants to Prepare Indian Teachers (there are some possible changes/additions to the language for TNEC review/consideration. Changes could help when there is an "expected family

contribution” financial barrier. Also, it has language that reads “Joint grantees shall contract with the Tribal Nations within the borders of Minnesota to provide scholarships to American Indian students pursuing eligible education programs at institutions defined in section 136A.103.”

- Further discussion is needed.
- Guthrie will set up an interagency meeting with OHE, OIE, MITTP, TNEC and Tribal Scholarship Managers.
- g. TNEC At-Large Metro Representative:
  - 3 letters of interest were received (Janice Erickson, Dennis Sargent and Carmen Perez.)
  - MIAC makes final determination; TNEC brings forward their recommendations. Vote was taken and the results were Dennis Sargent was first with 6 votes, Carmen Perez came in second and Janice was third.
  - The recommendation will be brought to MIAC as part of TNEC report for their meeting scheduled August 28<sup>th</sup>.
- h. Janelle Johnson, N. Sky Center of Excellence:
  - They are warehousing PPE for schools – has no info regarding the distribution of the PPE.
  - Indian Education networking – the next meeting is scheduled for September 29<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. An invite will be sent out.

VI. Next Meeting Date:

- September 24<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. with Bois Forte hosting the zoom meeting.

VII. Adjournment:

- **Laurie motioned to adjourn at 12:46 p.m. Second by Billie. Motion passed.**