

Tribal Nations Education Committee (TNEC)  
Minutes approved October 21, 2021  
September 17, 2021  
Carlton, MN

TNEC: Jennifer Murray – Fond Du Lac (TNEC Chair)  
Maria Burnett (via Zoom) – Grand Portage (TNEC Vice Chair)  
Travis Vake – Bois Forte  
Brook LaFloe – Twin Cities Metro  
Jackie Probst (via Zoom) – Lower Sioux  
Laurie Harper (via Zoom) – Leech Lake  
Paul Dressen (via Zoom) – Prairie Island  
Beth Tepper (via Zoom) – Shakopee  
Dana Goodwin (via Zoom) – White Earth  
Billie Annette – MN Chippewa Tribe  
David Isham (via Zoom) – Twin Cities Metro  
Dorothy Robinson (via Zoom) – Leech Lake (alternate TNEC member)

MDE: Dr. Jane Harstad, Director – Office of Indian Education  
Bobbie Burnham, Assistant Commissioner  
Dr. Stephanie Burrage, Deputy Commissioner  
Kristen Aiekens, AI Program Coordinator, Office of Indian Education  
Doug Paulson, Asst. Dir. Of Acad. Standards, Instruction & Rulemaking  
Stephanie Graff, Assistant Commissioner  
Jeanne Dickhausen, Head Start Collaboration Director  
Lucy Littlewolf-Arias, Tribal Nations Lead Preschool Development Grant

OLA: Sarah Delacueva, Project Manager, Office of the Legislative Auditor

Niniijaanis: Janice LaFloe

N. Sky RCE: Janella Johnson, AI School Community Tribal Liaison  
Becca Neal, Director – N. Sky Regional Center of Excellence

OHE: Dennis Olson, Commissioner of Higher Education

MIAC Shannon Geshick, Executive Director

- I. Jennifer called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m.
- II. Prayer was given by Laurie.
- III. Rollcall: A quorum was present.
- IV. Approval of Agenda: Motion by Beth. Second by Brook. Motion passed.

V. Approval of August 19 minutes: Move by Maria. Second by Travis. Motion passed.

VI. Old Business:

- a. Curriculum – no update.
- b. Education for all legislation didn't pass.
  - Disappointment with how social studies standards rolled out.
- c. Other Old Business:
  - Strategic plan: contact Dawn and review at next meeting.
  - Leads on 90 plan – email plans to Jen.

VII. New Business:

- a. Doug Paulson, MDE Assistant Director of Academic Standards, Instruction & Assessment presentation:
  - Social Studies Standards is getting close to the next draft.
  - Committee meeting on September 21<sup>st</sup> to review.
  - September 22<sup>nd</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> will be editing. Final draft September 28<sup>th</sup>.
  - Power point presentation. 25 Anchor standards. Doug will send.
  - Examples of benchmarks will be added. They will be included.
  - Math Standards coming up – taking requests for committee members.
  - There are 4 spots for TNEC members.
  - Physical Education Standards – 2023-2024.
- b. Stephanie Graff, MDE Assistant Commissioner:
  - Overview of federal funds and how they can support A students.
  - Power point presentation (will be emailed) re Federal ARP funds.
  - Applications due October 1<sup>st</sup> for school districts.
  - ARP funding through 2024.
  - BIE schools can apply.
  - What is a culturally specific organization? Is being worked on...accepting thoughts/directions. Boys & Girls Club? Yes.
  - These are competitive grants. Will larger districts get priority? No.
  - Under "School Support" - \$500,000 for tribal state relations training for public school leaders.
  - Tyler Livingston is contact for ARP funds for Indian teachers and teachers of color.
- c. Sarah Delacueva, Project Manager Office of the Legislative Auditor (OLA):
  - OLA has been asked by MN legislature to conduct an evaluation of MDE's role in addressing the achievement gap, how well TNEC thinks MDE is supporting AI students.
  - A report will be released February 2022.
  - Would like to speak with TNEC members.
  - There is a team of 3 – formed in early June. Any AI staff? No.
  - MIAC was informed.
  - Survey responses received from teachers and interest groups.

- Bipartisan committee. 12 member committee (Sarah will send list and date it was initiated)
  - Main contact from TNEC for OLA will be Laurie.
- d. Janice LaFloe, Niniijaanis One of Ones:
- Power point for the Niniijaanis war pony. Looking for tribal early childhood contacts and feedback for early learning needs.
  - Fundraising for the war pony. Plan to go to every reservation.
  - Will send link to campaign.
  - Will come back to present a plan for statewide services in the future.
- e. Janelle Johnson, American Indian School Community Tribal Liaison and Becca Neal, Director of Northern Sky Regional Center of Excellence:
- Discussion on the tribal consultation process to better understand how the regional centers can provide support to identified schools who participate in the process.
  - Updates on changes to AI School Community Tribal Liaison function in the regional centers.
- f. Jeanne Dickhausen, MDE Head Start Collaboration Director and Lucy Littlewolf-Arias, Tribal Nations Lead:
- Early learning and Head Start updates.
  - Power point presentation.
  - MDE increasing max early learning scholarship award.
  - Head Start programs report monthly enrollment.
  - 8 Tribal Head Start programs (out of 33.)
- g. Dr. Jane Harstad, MDE OIE Director:
- TNEC direction needed on how to divvy funds.
  - Has not yet opened up for new grants.
  - Motion by Travis to keep \$92,000 for each of the four originally named institutions (Augsburg, BSU, Moorhead & UMD), up to \$92,000 for competitive grants and the rest for additional grantees. Second by Maria. Motion passed.
  - Tribal liaison position will be re-opened.
  - Jane will send link.
  - Admin. Asst. position is open.
  - Job description for IE for All is ready. Will share with TNEC for review.
  - Position for person in Standards (open?)
  - Several legislative proposals going forward.
- h. Commissioner Dennis Olson, Office of Higher Education:
- Shared link: Minnesota Future Together Grants to Provide Tuition-Free Pathways for High Need Careers ([state.mn.us](https://state.mn.us)).
  - See ARP investment.
  - Pilot launch for spring semester (full implementation in the fall.)

- i. Shannon Geshick, Minnesota Indian Affairs Council Executive Director:
  - Reminder about tribal leaders meeting with MDE commissioner on September 27<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m.
  - The next MIAC meeting is November 15-17. The public meeting will be extended to 1 ½ days. November 17<sup>th</sup> will be a ½ day for public comments and presentations.
  - It will be a hybrid meeting – virtual and in-person. Public is invited in-person
  - TNEC is on agenda November 16<sup>th</sup>.
  - 2 grants applications next week – immersion and language preservation & revitalization.
  
- j. Other New Business:
  - Data Person: Travis. Motion by Billie. Second by Brook. Motion passed.
  - Fiscal Agent for MDE Budget:
    - Prairie Island had agreed a few years back. Paul will check if this is still an option.

VIII. Adjournment: Unanimous approval to adjourn. Meeting adjourns at approximately 2:46 p.m.