

OKLAHOMA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON INDIAN EDUCATION
Oklahoma State Department of Education
Room 120
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73150
Tuesday February 27, 2014
10:00 AM

1. Call to order and roll call—10:00 a.m.

Chairperson Parrish

Meeting was called to order at 10:08 a.m.

Roll call: Greg Anderson, Esther Bell, Robert Bible, Tom Crimmins, Judy Davis, Lucyann Harjo, Jim Parrish, Paul Pinkerton, Dwight Pickering, Matt Higdon.

2. Welcome

Chairperson Parrish

A. Introduction of New Members

B. Acknowledgment and Recognition of Host -

C. Introduction of Guests: Elizabeth Manatowa-Mastel, Director of Sac & Fox Education Department.
Kristy Smithson-Deal, Big Brother, Big Sisters

3. Discussion and possible action on OACIE Minutes of October 9, 2013.

Chair Parrish entered the minutes for discussion. Motion made by Tom Crimmins and seconded by Esther Bell. Motioned carried 11-0.

4. Discussion on current issues, goals, and updates for SDE

Dr. Barresi, State Superintendent

Mr. Pickering explained that Supt. Barresi was attending a State Board of Education Meeting in Enid

5. Updates on Oklahoma Indian Education

Dwight Pickering

Mr. Pickering acknowledged the presence of the Council. He mentioned the Oklahoma Indian Education Summit held in October and announced the next Summit will be in September 9-10th in Norman, OK. Chair Parrish mentioned that this was the first Summit held since 1996. He acknowledged the Council for helping to put this together. Mr. Pickering mentioned the partnership of the South Central Comprehensive Center and the American Indian Institute. He mentioned the progress of the Native Language Certification Process and that OSDE would be partnering with SC3 to provide a professional development opportunity for language instructors who need further assistance in preparation for classroom instruction. He stated that Desa Dawson and he had visited the Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to hear their work on language.

Mr. Tsothigh gave information on the proposed AP Summit to be held later in the fall. The Summit might connect with the Indian Education Summit in September.

Mr. Pickering explained the progress of the On-Line Curriculum Resources which will be unveiled later this month on the OSDE Indian Education website which will house curriculum resources. He asked Lucyann Harjo to discuss elements of the On-Line website which will include information from each of the 39 federally-recognized tribes. She mentioned that it will be demonstrated at the annual JOM State Conference. The resources will be aligned with the Oklahoma Academic Standards.

Member Lisa John arrived at the meeting at 10:35 a.m. Ms. John discussed curriculum resources developed by the Chickasaw Nation to be housed on the website. She stated that the Nation is working on 5 other classroom lessons for teachers. Ms. John mentioned that these resources would be housed on their tribal website and could be linked to the OSDE website. Several states have asked to access these resources. Mr. Pickering stated that it is hoped that other tribes would follow this example to give accurate information to be placed on the website. Chair Parrish remarked that the last time curriculum resources were developed were in 1992 so that this project would be very helpful to districts and schools. Mr. Pickering stated that he was anxious for this project to go live but that the History Center was putting resources together and would provide that to the Committee in the near future. Ms. John stated that the request for information from tribes came over a year ago and new information might have been developed. She asked if Lucyann would like to have this information and she responded affirmatively. Ms. Bell asked if the curriculum had a direct link to the Oklahoma State Standards. Ms. Harjo responded that the resources were aligned with OAS. Ms. John stated that the Chickasaw Nation could present on the resource material they have developed at the next meeting.

Indian Education Issues: Mr. Pickering mentioned that he has been pleased with the support given by leadership at OSDE. He mentioned that he was excited about the progress of the Muscogee Nation College. He distributed information on the Reading Sufficiency Act which is currently being implemented.

7. 2013 Annual Report as reported to the State Board of Education.

Dwight Pickering

Mr. Pickering gave remarks about the Indian Education Report which was given to the Oklahoma State Board of Education which was submitted recently. Chair Parrish stated that he had sent the report to the Council previously and that the Council has benefited from the partnerships which have been developed. He asked the Council to review the activities of the Council and the partnerships made including OETA, the Oklahoma History Center, the American Indian Institute, the South Central Comprehensive Center, the Oklahoma Historical Society. He stated that he felt very positive about the creation of these partnerships. He stated that H.B. 3243 has been submitted to the House which approved renewal of OACIE and was going to be submitted to the Oklahoma State Senate. He mentioned that the reported mentioned additional staffing for the Indian Education Department as well as professional development for teachers of American Indian students.

8. Presentation by Kristy Smithson, Manager of Native American Partnerships, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Oklahoma.

Chair Parrish invited Kristy Smithson-Deal to present information on Big Brothers, Big Sisters. Chair Parrish asked Ms. Smithson if she was working with tribes and she responded that they have a grant to continue to develop that relationship to connect tribal people to kids in need of mentoring. Ms. Harjo asked if there were over 90 students in need of help. Ms. John asked how potential supporters could connect in their areas. Ms. Smithson mentioned that Chickasaw, Choctaw, and Muscogee Nation tribal members were waiting for Big Brothers and Big Sisters.

X 9. Presentation by "REACH Coaches" from the State Department of Education.

Chair Parrish introduced Ms. Angela Toyobo of Anadarko, OK who currently serves as a REACH coach. She stated that the program derived from grant money to help support academic improvement. She stated that the program was to help with the implementation of Common Core State Standards. She stated that she serves several districts in the El Reno area which administers her employment. She mentioned that the program hosts area-wide meetings at the Career Technology Centers for these districts. One of the issues she is currently dealing with is the 3rd Grade Reading law which requires districts to retain 3rd grade students if they do not meet adequate academic performance. She stated that the earlier schools reach students the less chance they will need intervention later in their academic journey. Ms. John asked if the state is addressing reading or meeting standards for language arts. Tests assess comprehension, vocabulary, fluency for 3rd graders she responded. She stated that she would like to work with tribal Head Starts. Ms. Bell stated that a teacher in her district wanted to know if the Reading Sufficiency Act would be funded. Ms. Toyobo responded that funding was available because of this act. Ms. John stated that her tribe began working with kindergartens in schools to collaborate on common concerns. She stated that their tribal Head Start students were performing at higher levels than other kindergarten students who did not participate in Head Start. She demonstrated a video about the importance of

vocabulary with a focus on the Navajo Nation in an early childhood setting. Desa Dawson stated that it is important not to mix languages in conversation.

10. Recess for lunch- Action required. Motion by Mr. Crimmins and seconded Paul Pinkerton to adjourn for lunch. **Lunch was furnished by the Choctaw Nation and Chief Pyle.**

11. Reconvene the meeting- Action required. Motion made by Esther Bell and seconded by Judy Davis to reconvene. Motion carried 10-0.

12.. Discussion and possible action on the following items related to Indian Education

A. NACIE Report

Greg Anderson

Meeting scheduled for the latter part of March or early April. Mr. Anderson thanked those who attended the December Study Group Meeting in Oklahoma City. He stated the Department of Education has scheduled a tribal consultation on April 15, 2014 in Norman, OK. He asked that the Council communicate with tribal leadership to ensure a good representation from the state. He asked the Council for consideration of the proposed realignment of the BIE for tribal leaders and tribal governments to support what Oklahoma has requested in terms of that proposal. He stated that a letter of recommendation might be developed for the April meeting. Chair Parrish responded that a letter could be submitted prior to that meeting for the Council's consideration.

B. OCIE Report

Lucyann Harjo

Ms. Harjo mentioned that OCIE is planning the Oklahoma Indian Student Honor Society gathering with over 700 students recognized from 9-12 grades with a 3.9 grade average. The banquet will be held on April 17th at Broken Arrow, OK. Students have to have been involved in some type of cultural component or community service component to help them build their resumes for college. Chair Parrish asked if tribes could attend and if they were able to recognize those tribal members at some point. Students are charged \$10.00 to cover the costs of a t-shirt and certificate.

The Challenge Bowl was held yesterday with over 25 teams from across Oklahoma. She stated that students have learned a lot of interesting facts about Indian people of Oklahoma.

C. Results of the performance of Native American students on 2013 state testing.

Dwight Pickering

Mr. Pickering stated that he had previously provided data books which reflected the performance of American Indian students from last year's achievement tests. He mentioned that Chair Parrish had compiled a short list of statistics which single out the performance of American Indian students in Oklahoma districts and schools. Chair Parrish responded that the handout reflected positive data for American Indian students and that 65% of American Indian 5th graders were performing at proficient levels. When new test scores are released, Chair Parrish stated that a staff member of OSDE would be invited to explain the test results.

D. Education Bills of the 2014 legislative session

Tom Crimmins

Mr. Crimmins was given the floor to explain current education bills. He handed out information about an education rally to be held on March 31st at the state capitol. Each district will decide how to address their participation at this rally. He stated that the Rally for Public Education was a collaboration of educational organizations throughout the state. The flyer contained information on the necessity to address common concerns of the education community he stated. Mr. Crimmins stated that his district exchanged February 17th – President's Day for March 31st date to allow district staff members to attend the rally at the Capitol. He urged his staff members to find their own way to the rally.

He handed out an article from the Daily Oklahoman which addressed funding concerns for education. He stated that districts and schools meet weekly with CCOSSA about education related bills. He stated that today is the last day for bills to be able to come out of Committee in the State House. The bills will then move to the floor for a full House vote. He stated that the HB 3243 was the most important bill with regard to the Council as it was the one that continues the work of OACIE. HB2642 is another important bill that would provide for \$50 million extra funding for education. He continued with an explanation of "apportioned" and "appropriated" – terms that frame legislative funding for the coming year. Rep. Denney authored the bill for the House and Sen. Haligon for the Senate. Chair Parrish stated that the information he sends the Council for CCOSA reflects current initiatives that are of high importance. He mentioned HB2921 was passed by the House, which addressed Native languages. He stated that the Council representatives met with a legislative committee to continue authority of OACIE earlier this month. He said that the legislation would extend the life of the Council for six more years.

E. Discussion on April 8th Meeting

Chairperson Parrish

13. New Business

Chair Parrish requested the meeting to address this agenda item early since Mr. Bible needed to leave at 12:30 p.m. He stated that the next meeting in April was to host state legislators at the State Capitol. Chair Parrish stated that he thought there wouldn't be space for a meeting. Mr. Pickering stated that he had heard from Dan Kirby had located a closed room for the next meeting but that the room wouldn't be available after 10:00 a.m. Mr. Pickering mentioned that he had attended a meeting at the American Indian Cultural Center and Museum and thought that would be a good place to have the April meeting. Chair Parrish stated that he would request the Council approve holding the meeting at the Museum. He asked what time would the meeting have to be scheduled. Motion made by Mr. Crimmins and seconded by Ms. John to reschedule the meeting to the Museum. Motion carried 11-0.

14. Chair mentioned that the Council has one position opened that is related to tribes. He stated that he was speaking with Ms. Jacque Hensley about finding a replacement for Gay Munsell. He mentioned that there is discussion on Common Core State Standards and teacher shortages.

15. Adjournment

Chairperson Parrish

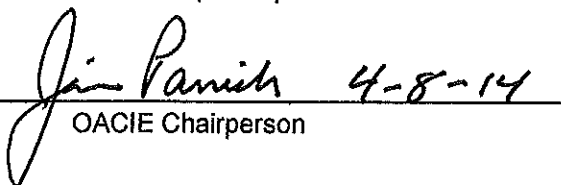
Closing Comments/Announcements

Chair Parrish asked Ms. Harjo if OCIE might be interested in hosting the breakfast reception for the Oklahoma Native American Caucus. She responded that she would ask the Board of Directors for that request. Ms. John mentioned that she would check with the Chickasaw Nation to see if they might sponsor that event. Chair Parrish commended the Council members for the good work of this body. He stated that we have seen new partnership potential from today's presenters and he expressed his appreciation for their work

Next meeting: April 8, 2014

16. Motion made by Mr. Crimmins and seconded by Ms. Harjo to adjourn. Motion carried 10-0

Minutes were provided by Jacob Tsofigh, Recording Secretary, for the Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education on Apr. 8, 2014 and were approved on Apr. 8, 2014.


OACIE Chairperson