

**MINUTES OF THE
OKLAHOMA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON INDIAN EDUCATION (OACIE)
REGULAR MEETING FOR THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2019
JULY 24, 2019, 10:00 A.M.**

OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (BOARD OF EDUCATION ROOM)
2500 NORTH LINCOLN BOULEVARD, OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73105

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Lucyann Harjo

Chair Lucyann Harjo called the Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. The purpose of the regular meeting is to meet “at least quarterly” provided by 70 O.S. § 3-173(D) per Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education Act.

2. Meeting Quorum

(A) ROLL CALL:

Present: Joy Hofmeister, Lucyann Harjo, Jim Parrish, Lisa John, Greg Anderson, Mary McCormick, Esther Bell, Paul Pinkerton, Robert Bible, Shoshana Wasserman, Cori Gray, Annette Long, Julian Guerrero; 13 present

Absent: Jana Roth, David Walkingstick, Judy Davis, Rhonda Hayworth, Lori Hamilton, Todd Crabtree; 5 absent

(B) GUESTS: Jackie White – National Johnson O’Malley Association (NJOMA), Kida Upshaw-Coordinator for Office of American Indian Education, Debbie Downing-Guest, Sarah Price-Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Catherine Parker-Comanche Nation, Laurisa Soap-Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Danny Wells-Chickasaw Nation, Bryon Dickens-Oklahoma City Community College, Pam Deering (proxy for Dr. Jeanene Barnett)-Cooperative Council for Oklahoma School Administration (CCOSA), Cindy Koss-Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE);

(C) ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF HOST

Chair Harjo thanked the Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) for serving as the host for the regular meeting of the third quarter of 2019.

3. State Superintendent Remarks

Superintendent Joy Hofmeister

Superintendent Hofmeister welcomed everyone and thanked the council for being able to be a part of the quarterly Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education meeting. *Superintendent* went on to speak about the July 10th Native Summit, Native Edge, with Muscogee (Creek) Nation that started two years ago and is growing with more participation each year. Superintendent touched on the Tribal Consultation, as required to be in compliance by Every Student Succeeds Act, with 105 consultations completed out of 185. *Superintendent* reiterated how the Social Studies academic standards, that quadrupled the amount of references to tribal sovereignty, were adopted by the legislature and signed by the Governor. The new Social Studies Standards will go on to be taught in schools starting the 2019-2020 school year. Tribal sovereignty will be introduced to children as early as 3rd grade. Superintendent revealed that according to the National Assessment for Educational Progress (NAEP), more than 50%, in the 2019 report card, of 4th and 8th graders of American Indian decent have never been exposed to their native language in their school’s

curriculum. The SDE, with the help of OACIE and others, are now able to offer ten native languages and are creating technical assistance with digital webinars to strengthen native language revitalization in Oklahoma classrooms with plans to expand. *Superintendent* spoke about the new SDE Equity task force where members of OACIE and others were invited to join. The Equity Task Force made up of three areas of focus, with one of the areas being focused on graduation and the sensitivity and responsiveness for the need to recognize native regalia. *Superintendent* reiterated that they are currently working on a clarification letter to the Bureau of Indian Education on student count, from the preliminary report, and how important an accurate count is in regard to the National Johnson O'Malley modernization. Superintendent announced that, after being on the road for five days, they've completed EngageOK that included sessions dedicated to presenting on matters important to American Indian Education, those session titles are: *Building Partnerships with Tribal Educational Agencies, Culturally Responsive American Indian Resources, How to Conduct an Effective Tribal Consultation, and Who are Diverse Learners and How Do We Reach Them*. They will also have in November, an offshoot of the summer EngageOK that will be tailored towards administrators.

4. (Action) Discussion to approve or disapprove OACIE minutes for Regular Meeting on April 17, 2019 (Q1) Open Floor

Councilmember Bell noticed the incorrect spelling of her name and motioned to update the spelling. *Councilmember Jim Parrish* made a motion to update agenda item 5(c) Inter-Tribal Council (ITC) resolution #19-04, to include the last two paragraphs in regard to the resolution. *Councilmember Parrish* made a motion to approve updated minutes, with a second from *Councilmember Anderson*. Voice vote conducted; *MOTION CARRIED 13 IN THE AFFIRMATIVE, 0 IN THE OPPOSITION, 0 IN THE ABSTENTION (13-0-0)*

5. Discussion of current issues, goals, and updates related to American Indian Students

(a) Legislative Updates from CCOSA Dr. Jeanene Barnett

Council Chair Harjo introduced Dr. Jeanene Barnett serving as proxy for Pam Deering to discuss Legislative updates from CCOSA. Dr. Barnett discussed legislation that required action from school boards and where you are able to find more legislative information and what key changes for local schools. The CCOSA website tracks a list of education Bills that have the potential to impact public education. The plan for the tracking list is to aid in staying on top of the issues and help advocate for policies and resources that positively impact our state's education system. Last fall, CCOSA put together a research paper that looked at National research and also detailed need for virtual instruction. Dr. Barnett went on to explain how CCOSA's House Bill 1395, encouraged School financial disclosures; subjecting virtual charter school to same financial reporting requirements as school districts, which had 100% progression. Charter schools now also have to abide by teacher contracts, the same as school districts across the State of Oklahoma. The hope of the Bill is to encourage financial transparency and accountability for all schools. Dr. Barnett provided information in regard to State testing dates being pushed back that would be helpful in allowing teachers more time to teach. Dr. Barnett also went on to speak about other Senate Bills including SB 193, SB 441, and SB 198; Dr. Barnett also asked for feedback on bills that should be on CCOSA's radar in year 2020.

(b) Updates Oklahoma Governor's Office

Lisa Billy

Secretary Billy reflected on the Governor's office now having a cabinet position for Native American affairs. As cabinet secretary, *Secretary Billy* is encouraged by Governor Stitt to set goals in the realm of Native American Affairs. *Secretary Billy* is hosting a Tribal Summit for Native youth across the State of Oklahoma, on August 8, 2019, at the State Capitol. *Secretary Billy* expressed how important this position is, and with her aid in creating this position, hopes to gain knowledge and resources from cabinet members and others in the State. *Secretary Billy* presents the needs of Indian country to the other 14 cabinet members whom are very open to helping. *Secretary Billy* plans to take their cabinet meetings on the road. *Council Chair Harjo* posed a question to the Council on working on the Oklahoma Indian education resources. *Council Chair Harjo* hopes to build resources for teachers in the State on all 39 tribes and working daily to get responses and feedback from all tribes to collaborate on this effort.

(c) Updates from Oklahoma State Department of Education Julian Guerrero

Deputy Superintendent Koss addressed the Council and guests regarding the Red Banner book that located on the OSDE website that details information about legislation, accountability, and funding and curriculum. *Deputy Superintendent Koss* also announced the October 7th, Student Success Summit which is connected with the individual career academic planning and tailored toward Hope and trauma-informed instruction. *Deputy Superintendent Koss* also spoke about the new area within the agency designed for diverse learners in the State. The Diverse Learner consist of a six-person team that includes Early Childhood education, English Language Learners, Gifted & Talented Education, and Special Education. *Councilmember Guerrero (proxy)* spoke more in depth about his EngageOK presentations and supporting diversity of American Indian students. *Councilmember Guerrero (proxy)* focused on one of the key points that relates to how important it is to update the wave system and the great strides the Five Civilized Tribes are making by pushing ITC resolution so that the wave can be reflective of the diversity of our native students and enhance the way we support our American Indian students in Oklahoma. *Councilmember Guerrero (proxy)* announce the State Indian Education Conference (SIECON) July 31- August 1, 2019. The United States Department of Education will be presenting at the conference on Title VI updates. SIECON was also made possible by three non-profit groups: Oklahoma Council for Indian Education, The National Indian Education Association, and Tribal Education Departments National Assembly. *Councilmember Guerrero (proxy)* gave an update in regard to the Native Youth Community Grant project, Oklahoma Future Native Leaders, and their work with career paths in meteorology with the Oklahoma MESONET. The grant also conducted two camps at Northeastern State University and Oklahoma State University that were tremendously successful.

(d) (Action) Updates to OACIE Bylaws

Lisa John

Councilmember John went over some of the suggested changes in the bylaws. Some of those changes included Councilmembers being Oklahoma citizens, but the plan is to remove it and add it to the House Bill. Page 2, under section 1A, states that the council shall be composed of 17 and is changed to 18 to match the House Bill. Attendance was an issue, under Section 2B Members being absent for three consecutive meetings may be recommended for dismissal by memorandum. The action will need to be recommended to the State Superintendent by the Council and

the State Superintendent will take action if they deem necessary. There was some concern with vacancies, and it is taking time to fill in seats. Subsequent officer elections will be conducted the fourth quarter of each year to aid with vacancies. The Vice-Chairman, in absence of the Chairperson, shall preside over the council meeting and shall perform other duties in the absence of the Chairperson.

Councilmember John informed the council that they had to remove the area in regard to proxy members because the State Department of Education's legal department informed the council that it is not legal to have proxy members. *Councilmember Guerrero* spoke with SDE legal department and stated that no vacancy shall impair the right of the remaining members to exercise all powers of the council and that is consistent with the laws statute which will also be mentioned in the House Bill. Proxy members being counted toward the quorum was removed because it is not legal. Under Section 4, that after 30-minutes, roll will not be taken, and the meeting will be cancelled due to the lack of a quorum. In regard to public comment, members of the public who desire to address the group must be recognized by the Chair before speaking. *Councilmember John* went on to speak about special committee or workgroup. The Council shall act in accordance with the provision of the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act and the Oklahoma Open Records Act. *Councilmember Guerrero (proxy)* reiterated that the bylaw should mention that the subcommittee or working group is not making voting decisions on behalf of OACIE. *Councilmember Guerrero (proxy)* stated that the subcommittee or working group could help further the direction of the Oklahoma Indian Education Resource guide and aid in making recommendations to the OACIE Council. The subcommittee will also need to provide a report and make recommendations to the Council that pertains to the assignment of the committee/workgroup.

Councilmember Wasserman updated the Council that the ownership of Native American Cultural and Educational Authority's ownership will transition to the City of Oklahoma and NACEA will dissolve as a state entity at that time. *Councilmember Wasserman* suggested that Section 1A:6, language may be affected due to the upcoming changes on opening day on May 2021. *Councilmember John* stated that upon the change, the NACEA will be updated to American Indian Cultural Center Foundation. *Councilmember Wasserman* also suggested that a day before a meeting, a phone call should be conducted to see if they will have a quorum to prevent any travel inconveniences, allowing the meeting to be cancelled in advance. This will be a part of the meeting process and not in the bylaws. *Councilmember Gray* suggested the "Public comment is allowed for no longer than 3-5 minutes", be changed to "Public comment is allowed no longer than five minutes". *Councilmember John* made a motion to approve updated bylaws with corrections, with a second from *Councilmember Anderson*. Voice vote conducted; **MOTION CARRIED 12 IN THE AFFIRMATIVE, 0 IN THE OPPOSITION, 0 IN THE ABSTENTION (12-0-0).**

(e) Preview of 2018 OACIE Annual Report

Lucyann Harjo

Chair Harjo stated that the OACIE annual report will be presented at The State Board of Education meeting in August. Chair Harjo went on to speak about all of the work that's been done and in improving collaboration communication among all educational entities working in the state curriculum and educational leadership. Chair Harjo went on to speak about submitting measurable research-based criteria to assisting children, analyzing data to show how our students are doing in our schools and making recommendations to the State Board and Oklahoma State department of Education. It was noted that through the 403 Title VI programs in the State of Oklahoma, we receive over 25 million from the Bureau of Indian Education. *Chair Harjo* highlighted things that are happening between the State of Oklahoma and the Oklahoma 39 Tribes and the push toward integrating more culturally responsive native curriculum in schools across the state. *Chair Harjo* provided an overview of Tribal consultation and a breakdown of different title programs that are involved in tribal consultation and its importance. There was a breakdown of tribal jurisdiction area through ArcGIS data with hopes of working toward a more accurate depiction. *Chair Harjo* reiterated that there are 178 schools that, under ESSA, should be conducting tribal consultations. The report previews the work OACIE is planning/doing with social study standards and a breakdown of the ten different tribal languages in Oklahoma Schools. *Chair Harjo* previewed an outline on the recommendations from the Council with a plan to reduce sustainability for fiscal year 2021 to maintain staffing in the Office of American Indian Education, as well as, provide additional staff development for teachers and administrators. It was recommended that an updated tribal consultation guide would encourage or mandate the inclusion of more American Indian history and contemporary information in all state standards.

(f) Proposed Ad Hoc Committee:

Developing Strategies to magnify OACIE Duties

Sarah Price

Guest Sarah Price outlined a proposal that the work that's being done in the State Tribal Education Partnership (STEP) Project and how a few of their objectives aligned with that of OACIE. Some strategies included streamlining a pathway towards the collaboration between schools, tribal agencies, and SDE. The continual developments included: data collection through focused stakeholder needs assessments, an assembled strategic plan will advise the council on identifiable constructs to support project implementation, measurable outcomes created and projects operating strengthening OACIE's pursuit of educational excellence for all Oklahoma native students. One of the objectives of the STEP program was to enhance operations of federal, state, and local education programs and resources through cross agency training information, sharing, and collaborative partnership. Also, TEA's will be able to build capacity to support the state and school districts and meeting cultural and education needs of native students. The STEP program is recommending a partnership with OACIE in becoming an ad hoc committee that could be utilized to provide and execute such recommendations and become an implementation vehicle to aid in accomplishing some of the goals and objectives of the Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education.

(g) Oklahoma City Community College (OCCC)

Mentorship Program Presentation

Bryon Dickens

Guest Dickens aided in launching a mentoring program in an effort to address the under academic performance of OCCC's students, which happened to be African American males. The program was so successful in aiding the first group of males that they were able to expand their program to support African American females, Latino males and females, as well as Native American males and females. The Students Connecting with Mentors for Success (SCMS) program is designed to partner mentors with students who are seeking assistance in one or more of the following areas: career exploration and guidance, academic achievement, post-graduation plans, networking opportunities with local professionals, connection to internships and entry-level positions, time management tips, personal character development, confidence building, and positive support and encouragement.

(h) OACIE Sunset Clause Updates

James Parrish

Councilmember Parrish addressed the council and informed the council that he's been in contact with the State Representative and is awaiting update recommendations from Lisa.

(i) Public Comment (NONE)

Open Floor

Guest Jackie White presented on the Johnson O'Malley (JOM) Modernization Act. The Act took its initial steps in ensuring full participation of all qualified and eligible Indian students in the JOM program. *Guest Jackie White* stated that legislation is pushing to ensure an accurate and updated count of students. The accurate count enables the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) to provide needed supplemental educational services and assistance to many Indian students. This accurate count could aid the students in Oklahoma and provide more assistance to students that are being missed.

(j) Closing Remarks

Open Floor

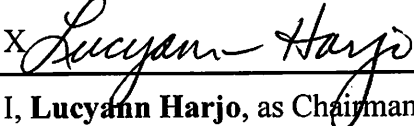
Councilmember Anderson proposed that item number four be moved to new business for consideration for next council meeting, with a second from *Councilmember Pinkerton*. *MOTION CARRIED 10 IN THE AFFIRMATIVE, 0 IN THE OPPOSITION, 0 IN THE ABSTENTION (10-0-0)* *Councilmember Anderson* made a motion that we set a proposed ad hoc committee to develop strategies for the Oklahoma Advisory Council, with a second from *Councilmember John*. Voice vote conducted; *MOTION CARRIED 10 IN THE AFFIRMATIVE, 0 IN THE OPPOSITION, 0 IN THE ABSTENTION (10-0-0)*. Next Regular Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, October 23, 2019

(k) (Action) Adjournment

Open Floor

Councilmember John made a motion to adjourn, with a second from *Councilmember Parrish*. By a unanimous voice vote, the Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education (OACIE) adjourned official business at 1:36 pm. *MOTION CARRIED 10 IN THE AFFIRMATIVE, 0 IN THE OPPOSITION, AND 0 IN THE ABSTENTION (10-0-0)*.

Minutes provided by the Oklahoma State Department of Education: Office of American Indian Education (Kida Upshaw), on behalf of the Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education on 07/24/2019 and were **PASSED** (*passed/rejected*) on OCTOBER 23, 2019.

X  _____

I, **Lucyann Harjo**, as Chairman of the Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education (OACIE) hereby certify these minutes to be true and accurate as approved by the Councilmembers who were present, in official quorum as provided by Oklahoma State Statute.