

November Special LIEC Meeting

Tuesday, November 24, 2020

MDE Office of Indian Education

Veronica Veaux, LIEC Chair started the meeting via Google Hangout Meets @5:10.

Roll Call:

Members Present: Veronica Veaux, Petra Neadeau, Sydney Harper, Doris Vleck, Don Kingbird, and Jordan Hickman.

Also Present: Sonia Wadena and Patty Graham.

Absent: Sharon Kingbird and Mary Fairbanks.

Guests: Tim Lutz and Colleen Cardenuto and MDE Staff member Kristen Aeikens.

This is a Special Meeting w/ MDE OIE regarding State Indian Ed. Program Plan (IEPP):

Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) Office of Indian Education (OIE) Director, Dr. Jane Harstad asked to meet with the Bemidji Local Indian Education Committee (L.I.E.C.) concerning their understanding of the IEPP and the budget that were submitted to MDE in October 2020.

To start the meeting Kristen explained that the OIE is meeting with every school district's LIEC board if their budget shows that more than 51% is being spent on staffing.

American Indian Parent Advisory Questions

1. How much input did you have on the plan that was submitted to MDE?

This grant was discussed at the April, September, and October 2020 meeting. The October 13, 2020 meeting minutes (#5) show it was brought to the board for their approval. This passed with everyone approving it. *Our Indian Education Program uses our Needs Assessment Surveys and the World's Best Workforce Plan to set our goals and that guides where our budget is spent at.

2. Are there items in your plan that the district is doing for all students in the district (ex: tutoring, mileage, technology)?

Our staff is helping with tutoring students, both online and in person.

We are doing a home visit that we call "Porch Visits", visiting the home but not entering the home. Checking on students and their families to help them get or stay connected.

No technology is being purchased with this grant money. These services are not currently provided by the district, these are supplemental.

3. Your district's plan has more than 50% of the Indian Education Aid going towards salaries. Do you understand which staff is being paid and what they are responsible for? Did you approve this?

Kristen did explain that Cultural / Language Teachers did not count against the over 50% count. Sonia explained that our Indian Home/ School Liaisons provide cultural activities also, such as beading, sewing, writings, and art work. Our Academic Advisors are tutoring using cultural appropriate materials. Kristen suggested that we note that in the future.

At this point Bemidji LIEC board members did assure Kristen that they are kept informed and do understand the direction that their Indian Education Program is going, and agree with it.

Sonia asked that it be noted that the Bemidji Indian Education Program partners with district programs whenever possible to help make dollars go further (ex: Schools, PTA groups, Special Education Program, Title I Program, and McKinney Vento Program, and outside agencies.)

Kristen did say that Guthrie Capossela, our programs MDE representative will probably be the one doing the formal review when he gets back into the office.

Adjourn: No formal adjourns ended the November Special Meeting.