

**MINUTES OF THE
OKLAHOMA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON INDIAN EDUCATION (OACIE)
REGULAR MEETING FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2020
FEBRUARY 26, 2020, 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 10:15 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: Lucyann Harjo, Jim Parrish, Lori Hamilton, Mary McCormick, Greg Anderson, Robert Bible, Paul Pinkerton, Cori Gray, Annette Long, Julian Guerrero; 10 present

Absent: Joy Hofmeister, Jana Roth, David Walkingstick, Judy Davis, Rhonda Hayworth, Lisa John, Shoshana Wasserman, Todd Crabtree, Esther Bell; 9 absent

(B) GUESTS: Lisa Nelson – Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE), Kida Upshaw – Coordinator for Office of American Indian Education, Quinton Roman Nose – Tribal Education Departments National Assembly, Amber Silverhorn-Wolfe – Kiowa Tribe Higher Education, Monty Guthrie – Deputy Superintendent 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 first quarter of 2020.

3. State Superintendent Remarks

Deputy Superintendent Monty Guthrie

Guest Guthrie, proxy for State Superintendent Joy Hofmeister, welcomed everyone and thanked the council for being able to be a part of the quarterly Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education meeting and the partnership between tribal leaders and nations across Oklahoma. *Guest Guthrie* spoke about attending the National Johnson O’Malley Association conference in Washington, DC. *Guest Guthrie* stated that the conference was an eye-opening experience and learned how strong of an influence Oklahoma brings to the conference. *Guest Guthrie* expressed the same sentiments in regard to attending Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting January 9th-10th. *Guest Guthrie* shared that the tribal consultations are still taking place *Councilmember Guerrero* is making efforts to be a part and aid in tribal consultations throughout the State and working with schools and their tribal representatives. *Guest Guthrie* expressed how exciting and rewarding it has been to work with Native students and Tribes in Oklahoma.

- 4. (Action) Discussion to approve or disapprove OACIE minutes for Regular Meeting on October 23, 2019 (Q3)** **Open Floor**
Councilmember McCormick made a motion to approve the minutes, with a second from *Councilmember Pinkerton*. Voice vote conducted; **MOTION CARRIED 9 IN THE AFFIRMATIVE, 0 IN THE OPPOSITION, 1 IN THE ABSTENTION (9-0-1)**
- 5. Review of Superintendent’s 2020 Inter-Tribal Council (ITC) Presentation** **Julian Guerrero**
Councilmember Guerrero discussed Superintendent’s presentation from the ITC meeting in Catoosa, Oklahoma. The presentation shared the tribal gaming contributions to 1017 funds from \$107,687,034 in 2014 to \$121,746,609 in 2018. *Councilmember Guerrero* overviewed the Oklahoma Edge 8-year strategic plan for education including, achieving academic excellence, building exceptional educators, and create engage communities. *Councilmember Guerrero* also indicated there are currently several native languages being offered throughout schools in Oklahoma with those being: Cherokee I-IV, Chickasaw I-IV, Choctaw I-IV, Comanche I-IV, Maskoke-Seminole I-IV, Mvskoke I-IV, Osage I-IV, Pawnee I-IV, Potawatomi I-II, and Sauk I-IV. *Councilmember Guerrero* continued to share more information on the State’s Strategic Plan to ensure students are “ready to read” by kindergarten, reach top 20 on the Nation’s Report Card (National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), reduce remediation by half, engage students in Individual Career Academic Planning (ICAP), rank among top 10 states in high school graduation, and increase access to effective teachers.
- 6. Presentation of SY 2020-2021 Tribal Consultation Notification Letter & Responsibilities** **Julian Guerrero**
 Before mentioning updates with the Tribal Consultation letter and responsibilities, *Chair Harjo* asked if *Councilmember Guerrero* could speak about the letter that went out from Superintendent Joy Hofmeister in regard to Native regalia on February 11, 2020. *Councilmember Guerrero* expressed that Superintendent Hofmeister stated in the letter that she sees the importance of Native regalia during graduation and expressed the importance of speaking about the topic during Tribal Consultation and use it as a vehicle to facilitate those meaningful conversations. During tribal consultation, which is required under Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), administrators and tribal leaders use the consultation to engage in active listening and collaborate to devise a plan for their school communities as graduation policies are a matter of local control.
- 7. Report on 2018/2019 OACIE Member Attendance** **Julian Guerrero**
Councilmember Guerrero went over a table that reviewed attendance for members appointed by the Governor, due to chronic absences. This is a response to those that were chronically absent. Although *Councilmember Guerrero* started the conversation, the table was not reported to the Secretary of Native American Affairs as they resigned. An updated list will be created later to show the attendance for all members and organizations represented. *Chair Harjo* went on to state that a change to the bylaws may be needed to reflect attendance to ensure seats are filled.
- 8. K-12 American Indian Recommendation** **Mary McCormick**
Councilmember McCormick addressed the council and gave recognition to *Councilmember Anderson*, as he was featured in the Seminole Producer newspaper and working with

educators at Seminole state college. *Councilmember McCormick* expressed that tribes should know more about what's happening with OACIE whether it's educational or recreational. *Councilmember McCormick* gave a brief synopsis on her stance on education. *Councilmember McCormick* stated that education, parents, and businesses should be on the same page on education. *Councilmember McCormick* believes that, due to an excessive amount of testing, education is taking a backseat to testing. *Councilmember McCormick* quoted the Oklahoma constitution; "Oklahoma will provide education to every child." *Councilmember McCormick* recommended that schools should rewind to the earlier years of education and social skills be brought back to the classroom.

9. Discussion of current issues, goals, and updates related to American Indian students

(a) Legislative Updates

Jim Parrish

Councilmember Parrish presented information about the legislative updates with House Bill 3588 submitted by Dustin Roberts. House Bill (HB) 3588, which modifies the sunset date, will be headed to the House floor after receiving 75-0 in favor of Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education. *Councilmember Parrish* addressed House Bill 2869, which would give the State Department of Education the ability to capture data relating to a student's tribal affiliation. The bill went through the House on February 20, 2020 and passed and is now heading to the Senate. *Councilmember Parrish* expressed that this data is critical in aggregating student data to be able to identify the student's different tribal affiliations, as well as data relating to Johnson-O'Malley or Title VI funding. *Councilmember Parrish* addressed two bills that would benefit all students Senate Bill (SB) 1534 and 1535, authored by Senator Bullard. *Councilmember Parrish* stated that SB 1534 expands eligible grade levels allowed to enter into agreements for the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program to include eleventh graders or those who have reached age 16 beginning in the 2020-21 school year. *Councilmember Parrish* stated SB 1535 modifies the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program (OHLAP). It directs the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to include a form whereby a parent, custodial parent or guardian of a student may give permission to the State Regents to verify the parents' or guardians' income with the Oklahoma Tax Commission. The measure also allows OHLAP agreements to be witnessed by a school counselor or designated teacher. The bill authorizes the disclosure of specific income information to the State Regents to verify financial qualifications under OHLAP. *Councilmember Guerrero* expressed that in the meantime, while working on HB 2869, he will also be working with OSDE counterparts and sending out letters to vendors so they can start to prepare for the Bill after execution. *Chair Harjo* asked if there was an update in regard to tribal regalia and *Guest Downing* stated that HB 3046, passed committee and is headed to the House.

(b) Brainstorming for 2019 OACIE Annual Report

Lucyann Harjo

Chair Harjo addressed the council and presented the current presentation with the Council's priorities. *Chair Harjo* asked if any recommendations for changes on the presentation. *Chair Harjo* suggested that an update be given on how Tribal consultations are going. *Councilmember Guerrero* suggested adding mapping information from a former presentation he's submitted. *Chair Harjo* also suggested

that any additions should be brought to the Council from any councilmembers. *Councilmember McCormick* asked how consultations are being tracked. *Councilmember Guerrero* updated the council and let them know that an official template was sent out by OSDE and they are signed by schools and Tribes. *Councilmember McCormick* also ask if communities are notified, and *Councilmember Guerrero* assured that consultations have to be made known to the public whether it being in news, official posting, or placed throughout the community. *Chair Harjo* asked for suggestions on how the social studies standards can be updated to show progress. *Councilmember Parrish* suggested adding the information on how many Tribal representatives were represented. *Councilmember Anderson* suggested including the Tribal partnerships with Trauma Informed instruction. *Chair Harjo* will share the presentation with the Council and allow any suggestions to make at the council's leisure. *Councilmember Gray* shared mapping information on Technology Centers across Oklahoma and the number of students who self-identify as Native Americans within their systems.

(f) Public Comment (NONE)

Open Floor

Guest Roman Nose mentioned bill 1317 and how historic it is for Oklahoma. *Guest Roman Nose* also stated HB 3046 on Native Regalia the best way to approach the situation is to go through Title VI as a way to show proof that they are Native. *Guest Roman Nose* also mentioned that any school, even if they have only one Native student should be receiving Title VI funds and should reach out to their Tribal partners on help to get funding set up in their schools. *Guest Roman Nose* also mentioned the vacancy with the State for the State Secretary of Native Affairs and encourages all to apply, among other Native related vacancies. *Guest Downing* interjected to address the Council about "Distance Thunder", a Native American musical, one of the first. The musical is set to start March 25, 2020-April 11, 2020. *Guest Downing* shared that the National Education Association will be having a summit at the Hard Rock Casino on April 3, 2020. *Guest Nelson* also shared parent guides from the Regents and Oklahoma Summer Academies for 8th-12th graders and applications are open to apply. *Chair Harjo* asked if there's information at the Regents that shares which Tribes pay for concurrent enrollment fees. *Guest Nelson* was interested in creating a listserv that would share information but was not aware of which Tribes participate in paying for student concurrent enrollment fees. *Councilmember Guerrero* is interested in creating something that would share how each Tribes could assist their Native students, along with *Chair Harjo*.

(g) New Business

Open Floor

Councilmember Long addressed the Council and shared information that the Regents were working on in regard to the guidance for concurrent enrollment and a quick guide for counselors. *Councilmember Long* also shared documents for school that are interested in either creating or expanding their concurrent enrollment.

(h) Closing Remarks

Open Floor

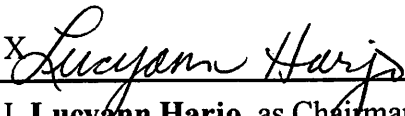
(NONE)

(i) (Action) Adjournment

Open Floor

Councilmember Parrish made a motion to adjourn, with a second from *Councilmember Pinkerton*. By a unanimous voice vote, the Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education (OACIE) adjourned official business at 12:40 pm. **MOTION CARRIED 10 IN THE AFFIRMATIVE, 0 IN THE OPPOSITION, AND 0 IN THE ABSTENTION (10-0-0)**. Next Regular Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 29, 2020.

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 **02/29/2020** and were **PASSED** (*passed/rejected*) on FEBRUARY 26, 2020.



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.