

OKLAHOMA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON INDIAN EDUCATION
Regular Meeting
The American Indian Cultural Center and Museum
Conference Room
659 American Indian Boulevard
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73129
Tuesday April 8, 2014
10:00 AM

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

Meeting called to order at 10:36 a.m. Roll Call of members Present: Greg Anderson, Tom Crimmins, Nancy Fields, Lori Hamilton, Lucyann Harjo, Lisa John, Matt Higdon, Mary McCormick, Jim Parrish, Jana Roth, Dwight Pickering. Absent: Janet Barresi, Esther Bell, Judy Davis, Robert Bible, Paul Pinkerton, Joe Robinson, Jack Shadwick

2. **Establish a Quorum - Eleven members present**

3. **Welcome** **Chairperson Parrish**

A. Introduction of new members

B. Acknowledgment and Recognition of Host – Chair Parrish acknowledged the American Indian Cultural Center and Museum and Nancy Fields, Education Specialist, welcomed the Council to the Center and expressed her appreciation for conducting the meeting here.

C. Introduction of Guests - Catherine Fatheree, Desa Dawson, Jacque Hensley, Starla Bilyeu, Kimberly Vance, Justin Devero

4. **Vote to acknowledge the lack of a quorum for February 11, 2014 meeting. Motion by Mr. Crimmins, seconded by Ms. Harjo. Motion carried 10 ayes, 0 nays**

5. **Discussion and possible action to approve or disapprove the OACIE Minutes of February 27, 2014 Special Council Meeting.**

Motion made by Mr. Crimmins, seconded by Ms. Harjo. Motion carried 10 ayes, 1 abstention (vote #1)

6. **Discussion on current issues, goals, and updates for SDE** **Dr. Barresi, State Superintendent**

Mr. Pickering explained that Supt. Barresi could not be here.

7. **Updates on Oklahoma Indian Education** **Dwight Pickering**

Mr. Pickering asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of the First Lady of the Comanche Nation, Debra Coffey, and Charles Locust, Vice-Chief of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokees. He stated his pleasure at the legislative response to this morning's reception at the State Capitol.

He mentioned working on the AP Summit with SC3 in support of Indian students. He mentioned the Charter Bill, HB 2931, which has passed the House and would move to the Senate sometime next week. He stated that this bill was very important to tribes in the state. He stated that he was pleased with the STEP Grant Program that is in its second year and that he would be traveling to Washington, D.C. in September. He mentioned the Native Language Bill (HB 2921) sponsored by Rep. Billy and that several districts are looking at starting Native language courses in the future. Chair Parrish stated the Governor had signed the bill yesterday.

He mentioned the OIE/WHIAIANE Tribal Consultation will be held on Tuesday, April 15th, in Norman, OK. He stated that several organizations would speak on Indian education issues from their perspectives. This consultation would highlight the accomplishments of our Native students and tribes. He mentioned that tribes still have treaties which include education as priorities for their people. Ms. Harjo mentioned that there is a concern for juvenile justice issues among our Native youth and that they are a forgotten segment of our Indian populations. She stated that she was alarmed about the increasing rate of incarceration among our young people. She said we talk about the successes of our Indian students but forget about the neglected segment of Native young people. She has been talking with tribes about a system of resources that might be put in place to help these young people. She stated that we need to keep our eyes open to how to help with this area. She asked how many tribe and organizations will focus on that group of children. Mr. Pickering responded that he does not know of any tribes that include young people in this area. He thought the Muscogee Nation might have a program that addresses this area of concern. She stated that there is a report from the State about this concern.

Mr. Pickering introduced Mr. Justin Devero, IT Specialist, who has been helping with the On-Line Curriculum Resources Project. He stated that the project is at OSDE's legal office to review before releasing to open for the public. Ms. Harjo explained that the Committee has been working with Mr. Devero on curriculum resources. She stated that the work began in January 2013, and that it is a work in progress. She stated that the content only focused on Social Studies at the present time. Ms. Harjo stated that this project was presented to the Oklahoma Social Studies Conference last weekend. Teachers responded that they are very excited about the resource due to the lack of information on Oklahoma tribes.

She stated that the 2nd tab on the website addressed lesson plans for teachers. The Committee is trying to communicate with tribes to get their approval and participation in providing accurate information to include for teacher use. She stated that the Committee would like to see more lesson plans on this tab. There are currently 10-15 links in this tab. Ms. John said the Chickasaw Nation would have lesson plans available in the near future. She asked if the website could be linked to the Chickasaw Nation website to be included in this project. Ms. John asked if the Committee could send the Chickasaw template so they could update that information for the website. She asked for a Word copy of the template instead of the PDF so that they could update their information. Teachers were asking for information on Language Arts, Math, and Science, etc. Mr. Pickering explained the elements from past projects supported by OSDE when Linda Skinner was Indian Education Director. The documents were housed at the documents.ok.gov website.

Ms. Harjo pointed to the Oklahoma Academic Standards segment that housed the state academic standards.

8. Discussion and possible action to approve or disapprove a letter for the support of the American Indian Education to the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Interior.

Chair Parrish read a copy of the letter of support to OACIE membership. Motion by Ms. McCormick seconded by Mr. Crimmins. Motion carried 11-0. (vote #2)

9. Updates and Reports on the following items related to Indian Education

B.

**NACIE Report
Greg Anderson**

Mr. Anderson reported that NACIE met last week in Washington and will be an advocate for Indian education issues in the future including asking that the OIE Director be elevated to an Asst. Secretary level. The Council will ask for increased funding for Indian education in general. The Council will advocate for language acquisition programs among tribes and schools. The Council will continue to advocate for the STEP Grantee program and will ask for more funding to support the pilot programs that are being funded. The Council will support the reorganization of the BIE/BIA to address Indian education issues. He stated that the BIE/OIE will host a Study Group meeting on April 30th at Riverside with some of the same leadership which came in December. A report on the Study Group Report will be given at that time. Ms.

Fatheree mentioned that the Riverside Study Group meeting would have a security guard asking for a photo ID but cautioned that this shouldn't deter attendees. Mr. Anderson mentioned that an increase in JOM funding levels would be requested in legislation which would also address student count issues related to funding.

Ms. Harjo asked about the hope of the STEP Grant. Mr. Pickering stated that OSDE was excited about building a partnership with tribal education departments. The SEA supported the Oklahoma tribes in implementing the grant program with a high level of cooperation. He stated that he knew some of the other states might be having some challenges in implementing the grant but that is part of creating these pilot projects.

C.

**OCIE Report
Lucyann Harjo**

OCIE will meet on April 17th and is hosting the Oklahoma Indian Student Honor Society next week with an induction ceremony to recognize their academic achievement. Ms. McCormick asked if tribes would be invited to the OCIE. Ms. Harjo mentioned that they would be invited. She invited members of OACIE to come to the Honor Society Banquet but stated that there would be a \$10.00 registration fee.

D.

2014 legislative session

**Education Bills of the
Tom Crimmins**

Mr. Crimmins stated that he attended a CCOSA meeting this morning and that 39 bills were being monitored that focused on education. He stated that time is running out on the legislative session for these bills to be voted on. He mentioned that he had a number of bills with information. Mr. Crimmins reviewed the Education Rally which was held last week at the State Capitol and was attended by over 25,000 people. He talked with a newspaper reporter who spoke with law enforcement and they estimated over 30,000 were there to support HB 2642 which was passed out of the House and went to the Senate. The difference between apportioned and appropriated funding was presented. Education funding should be connected to apportioned funding with half of current legislation supported by this mechanism. Common Education gets about 35% of appropriated funding from the State Legislature.

10. Discussion and action on changing the location for the July 8th Regular Meeting. Chair Parrish

11. Public Comments--none

12. New Business--none

13. Closing Remarks and announcements

14. Adjournment (action item)

Chairperson Parrish

This agenda was posted on _____, 2014 at _____ (time) at the American Indian Cultural Center and Museum located at 659 American Indian Boulevard, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73129 by _____ (name)

OACIE Chairperson

Minutes were provided by Jacob Tsoitigh, Recording Secretary, for the Oklahoma Advisory Council for Indian Education on April 8, 2014 and were approved on October 14, 2014

Jan Parrish
OACIE Chairperson