

OKLAHOMA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON INDIAN EDUCATION
National Weather Center Boardroom
120 David L. Boren
Norman, Oklahoma
Wednesday October 9, 2013
10:00 AM

1. Call to order and roll call—10:00 a.m. Chairperson Parrish
2. Welcome Chairperson Parrish
 - A. Invocation
 - B. Acknowledgment and Recognition of Host
 - C. Introduction of Guests
 - D. Introduction of new board members
3. Discussion and possible action on OACIE Minutes of July 10, 2013
4. Discussion on current issues, goals, and updates for SDE Dr. Barresi, State Superintendent
5. Updates on Oklahoma Indian Education Dwight Pickering
6. Presentation by Oklahoma Historical Society Mary McCormick
7. Presentation by Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education Joe Robinson
8. Recess for lunch (vote required)
9. Vote to reconvene the meeting (vote required)
10. Discussion and possible action on the following items related to Indian Education
 - A. NACIE Report Greg Anderson
 - B. OCIE Report Lucyann Harjo
 - C. OACIE Annual Report Chairman Parrish
 - D. Election of Officers for 2014 Chairman Parrish
 - E. Selection of Quarterly Meeting dates for 2014 Chairman Parrish
 - F. Reauthorization of OACIE Chairman Parrish
11. Closing Comments and Announcements Chairperson
12. Adjournment

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1. **Call to order and roll call—10:00 a.m.** Chairperson Parrish
Called to order at 10:07 a.m.

Roll Call - Esther Bell, Robert Bible, Tom Crimmins, Lucyann Harjo, Matt Higdon, Mary McCormick, Chair Jim Parrish, Dwight Pickering, Dr. Joe Robinson, Present

2. **Welcome** Chairperson Parrish
- A. Invocation - Jacob Tsoligh was asked to provide the invocation
 - B. Acknowledgment and Recognition of Host – Chair Parrish acknowledged today's host Dr. Neely, Ann Barnes, and Jacob Tsoligh
 - C. Introduction of Guests – Bill Welge of the Oklahoma Historical Society, Dr. Norma Neely, Ms. Billie Fogerty of the Oklahoma Historical Society
 - D. Introduction of new board members - Matt Higdon, member of the Pottawatomie Tribe, represents the Board of Regents, President Robert Bible, member of the Muscogee Nation, of the Muscogee Nation College

3. **Discussion and possible action on OACIE Minutes of July 10, 2013 – motion by Tom Crimmins, seconded by Lucyann Harjo to approve the minutes. Motion passed 6-0-4**

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

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

Mr. Pickering stated that he was working on projects at SDE including Online Digital Resources, the Oklahoma Indian Education Summit which is scheduled Oct. 21-23rd at the U.S. Postal Training Facility. Mr. Pickering extends an invitation to the Council to attend the opening reception of the Summit on Monday, Oct. 21st at 4:00 p.m. He asked Ms. Harjo to provide information on the Online Digital Resources. She stated that a Committee has been working on these resources to be made available to classroom teachers which focus on the thirty nine tribes from Oklahoma with the goal of housing these resources on the Oklahoma State Department of Education. She said that a presentation would be made in early December prior to the inaugural opening in January, 2014. She stated that the hope of the Committee was that the website would be a start and that more information would be made available on the history and culture of the thirty nine tribes. She said that more partnerships would grow from this effort.

Mr. Pickering asked Dr. Neely to provide information on the Indian Education Summit. She extended an invitation to the Council to attend the opening reception on Monday, Oct. 21st. Chair Parrish stated his excitement that the Summit has been reinvigorated which has not taken place since the mid 90s. He thanked Ms. Harjo for the work of the Online Resources Committee for the state of Oklahoma and its classroom teachers. He asked that the Council keep sharing information about its opening in January. Mr. Pickering expressed his apology for not mentioning the South Central Comprehensive Center's support for the Indian Education Summit and the hope that it will continue to grow to include more opportunities for classroom teachers.

6. Presentation by Oklahoma Historical Society

Mary McCormick

Chair Parrish welcomed the Oklahoma Historical Society and allowed Ms. McCormick to introduce representatives of the Oklahoma Historical Society. She stated that she felt Oklahoma schools need to do more to provide information in order to provide Indian. She belongs to many organizations that reflect the history of Oklahoma. Ms. McCormick acknowledged the extensive talent present on the Council but bemoaned the lack of communication about the goals of the Council.

Bill Welge introduced himself as the new Director of Office of American Indian Culture and Preservation at the Oklahoma Historical Society. He stated that the Society has seen the value of American Indian history and that the largest gallery at the Society is devoted to American Indian people and the contributions made in the development of the State. He has been associated with the Society since 1977.

The Society has 3.5 million documents from most of the Tribes in Oklahoma including those of the Sac & Fox which dates back to 1830s prior to their removal to Oklahoma. The Society continues to gather resources from various Tribes in the State including tribal records dating back to 1902. In 1927, Grant Foreman pushed efforts to acquire records for the Five Tribes of Oklahoma. The Society was given this responsibility from the Department of Interior in 1929 which required a building housing these documents to be fire-proof. Congress passed legislation which supported the Oklahoma Historical Society in 1934.

The Historical Society houses resources on 38 of the 39 tribes in Oklahoma. The Society continues to be invited to tribal events which the organization tries to honor especially Chester Cowan, staff photographer. The Society is focused on developing partnerships with tribes especially in gathering oral interviews with tribal elders. They bemoan the fact that young people are not listening to them to help shape their culture for the future. The Society is hopeful that the interviews will be utilized by young people once they realize the value of these stories. The Society hopes to work with the Euchee later this year even though they are not a federally-recognized tribe.

Ms. Fogarty spoke of her work on genealogy. She stated that people are familiar with the "pop" genealogy in order to trace their family history. She stated that she gets a lot of calls on how to research your family in order to find out information about their Indian roots. There is an Indian genealogy database at the OHS facility. She mentioned that it is a part of the collection and that Mr. Welge has been instrumental in developing those resources. The exhibit on American Indian is on level with the Smithsonian in its value. She mentioned ancestry.com as one of the more prominent genealogical organizations which has interest in American Indian people.

The organization hopes to put information on line pertaining to American Indian people. She stated that it is an exciting partnership with great potential for the general public in pursuit of their American Indian background. The partnership is still in the works but will be out in November, 2014. Ms. John responded that her tribe has been looking at resources in Utah that might not be appropriate in reflecting tribal nations and she asked who with the Society is making decisions about appropriateness of some records to be included in these resources. Ms. Fogarty stated that an interview process helps to validate potential resources. Mr. Welge stated that there are tribal members on staff who could help in determining the sensitive nature of these resources. Ms. John stated that the Society has been receptive to concerns of her tribe including that ancestry.com is fee-based and they wanted to include more access by Indian people. Mr. Welge stated that resources from the Chickasaw Nation would be the first to be introduced to the

general public. OCR – Optical Character Resolution would be utilized as a vehicle for resources. Tribal people do not know what resources the Historical Society houses and are unfamiliar with them. Chair Parrish asked if the Society representatives could give some resources for schools. Mr. Welge responded that the website, www.okhistory.org, will take you to the Society's main page with access to individual tribal resources. Oral interviews by tribe are available. He mentioned that the Comanche Nation accessed the resources of the Society to shape its exhibit on Code Talkers. Chair Parrish wanted to make sure that Online Resources could include the Society's link for public schools. Mr. Welge stated that the Society has resources of tribal maps from the early 1800s prior to their removal to Indian Territory. Film and video collections are available as well from the early history of the State. Chair Parrish stated that one of the Council's responsibility is to help the Society market its resources. Mr. Tsofigh asked if the Society had received any pushback from the term "Five Civilized Tribes" and Ms. Fogerty responded that she used the term "So called Five Civilized Tribes" to clarify the negative connotation might have for other tribes. Ms. McCormick stated her appreciation for the Society and what it means for Indian people. She expressed appreciation for the representatives and the information they provided.

7. Presentation by Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education

Joe Robinson

Chair Parrish turned the meeting over to Dr. Robinson to provide information on Career Technology Centers and enrollment of American Indian students. He provided a chart that reflected the individual Center's enrollment of American Indian students and stated that figures are holding steady. Ms. McCormick asked if welders were still the greatest need. Dr. Robinson responded that truck drivers are now the greatest need for companies because of the oil industry boom. He mentioned the lack of hotel rooms in western Oklahoma because of the oil boom. Ms. Roth asked what a truck driver might earn and Dr. Robinson responded that a person could make \$40,000 to \$60,000 per year. Ms. McCormick how many Centers there were and Dr. Robinson responded 69 Centers throughout the state. Chair Parrish asked about percentages of enrollment per Indian student which might reflect high school enrollment. He asked Mr. Pickering how we might get that information. Mr. Pickering responded that information might be included in the Profiles 2012 State Report he distributed earlier.

Chair Parrish asked if he could provide that information for the next meeting. Mr. Higdon asked if the identification came from the student or school district. Dr. Robinson responded that the information came from the district. Mr. Higdon asked about self-identification because of a federal change from "multi-racial" to "two or more races" which produced more specific information on American Indian students. He stated that it is very important for students to identify themselves as American Indians. Dr. Robinson responded that improvements could be made in identifying American Indian students.

8. Recess for lunch (vote required)

Chair asked what the Council would like to do for lunch. Mr. Crimmins motioned to recess for lunch. The motion was seconded by Ms. McCormick. Motion passed 13-0. Dr. Robinson stated the Career Technology Program has a new Director, Dr. Robert Summers, who was appointed as the Oklahoma Secretary of Education.

9. Vote to reconvene the meeting (vote required)

Motion made to reconvene by Esther Bell, seconded by Dr. Joe Robinson. Motion passed 12-0. Meeting reconvened at 12:20 p.m.

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

A. NACIE Report

Greg Anderson

Mr. Anderson stated that information is included in members' packets. He mentioned that the BIE is still considering reorganization of the Oklahoma office and the BIE is considering a Study Group in partnership with Brown University and Donald Yu, Assistant Secretary of ED, to review potential relocation. The review has been reopened by BIE which he stated would be restarted. He stated that his article in the Native American Times had been circulated widely and that the BIE had read the report and was responsive to the numbers that were reported in that article. He stated that the BIE is reconsidering the potential relocation of the Oklahoma office. Mr. Pickering mentioned the progress of the STEP Grant Program in Oklahoma and having attended a STEP Director's meeting in Santa Fe.

He stated that during that meeting he had met with William Mendoza and Joyce Silverthorne of ED about the possibility of having a hearing in the state of Oklahoma. He stated that he had received a request for information from the BIE that might relate to a possible hearing in Oklahoma. Mr. Anderson responded that they were trying to see who might give testimony at a potential hearing in Oklahoma. Mr. Pickering acknowledged Ms. Harjo has been instrumental in keeping Oklahoma in the loop as far as reconsideration of that potential move. Chair Parrish asked if the BIE would be given a platform at the Indian Education Summit. Mr. Pickering stated that he was hopeful to host a potential hearing for Indian education in the next year.

Ms. John asked if a different format could be used at that hearing as the last one precluded the public from offering input because they only wanted testimony from tribal leadership. Ms. McCormick asked if a meeting would be held at the NCAI Conference in Tulsa later this month. Mr. Anderson responded that he was doubtful there would be a meeting due to the shutdown of the government. Ms. John mentioned that travel is limited due to the shutdown and it has impacted the Oklahoma Native Language Association conference which was cancelled due to travel restrictions.

B OCIE Report

Lucyann Harjo

Chair Parrish asked Ms. Harjo to present information on OCIE activities. She responded that she had distributed information on the Annual OCIE Conference in Midwest City in December. She stated that Oklahoma receives \$15 million for JOM Programs and \$25 million for Title VII Indian Education for American Indian students and when we have critical issues action must be taken quickly. She stated that in the early spring a proposed bill would have combined Title VII with Title I and action had to be taken. She stated that Oklahoma Congressmen voted to combine the funding except for Rep. Cole and she was concerned about the level of funding that would be affected. She stated that American Indian students need these programs. She mentioned that a better communication system be in place in Oklahoma to help support these programs and the need for American Indian people to be aware.

OCIE is sponsoring a reception at NCAI to gather tribal leadership support to address the need for effective communication. The program has a focus of American Indian women to help in that regard. "Native Fashion for Action" will send a very important message in that regard she stated. Ms. John responded that there are advisory work groups that are supposed to tackle the critical issues already in place. These groups develop position papers to address these issues she stated. Issues such as diabetes would be addressed by this group to get a consensus for the state of Oklahoma. Education has never pulled together as one of these issues addressed by

these work groups. She stated that tribal leaders appoint representatives to these work groups because of the lack of time they have to devote to these discussions. These groups have to be a consensus and not a personal agenda she stated. Health and BIA have work groups but not for Education. She stated that the work group is a very productive way to address these critical issues.

Ms. McCormick responded that the Council needed to develop a position paper to reflect the view of the Council's perspective. Chair Parrish stated that he represents the view of the Chief of the Choctaw Nation. Ms. McCormick stated that each member represents the Council on behalf of the State of Oklahoma. Chair Parrish responded that if we wrote a position paper the member would have to get permission from the Nation to approve that perspective. Ms. John mentioned that Mr. Anderson has already written a good report that can be built upon. Mr. Anderson stated that we need a statewide effort to address these issues. Mr. Higdon mentioned that he, too, represents the views of Chancellor Johnson and the Board of Regents. Ms. John stated that there needs to be an Indian Education Task Force. Chair Parrish stated that Mr. Crimmins represents Impact Aid and he reflects that perspective. Ms. John responded that there are some general things that are good for Oklahoma Indian students such as Head Start and Child Care. Chair Parrish stated that this suggestion needs to have that included on the agenda for official consideration.

C. OACIE Annual Report

Chairman Parrish

Chair Parrish stated that a report needs to be given to the Oklahoma State Board of Education at its December 17th at their meeting in Oklahoma. He stated that the report will reflect on the partnerships developed over the year and where we would like to be in the future. He mentioned that each member could reflect on past minutes and offer their input for the report.

D. Election of Officers for 2014

Chairman Parrish

Chair Parrish stated that he would take nominations for next year's Chair. Ms. John responded that she would like to nominate Chair Parrish for another term in office. Mr. Pickering stated that he would support Chair Parrish for another term and mentioned the effort and work that it takes for this office. He stated his support for him to continue in this role and recognized the impact the role might have on his family. Ms. Roth nominated Mr. Anderson which he declined because of prior commitments but thanked member Roth. He stated his support of Chair Parrish to serve another term. Chair Parrish remarked that he has appreciated the opportunity to serve but acknowledged his reluctance to keep others from serving. He stated that he had to give up too much of his time from family to serve. Ms. John acknowledged his commitment but felt his leadership has been effective. Ms. McCormick moved to close the nomination and was seconded by Mr. Crimmins to elect Chair Parrish for another term. Motion carried 12-0. Chair Parrish opened nominations for Vice-Chair. Mr. Anderson nominated Ms. Harjo. Dr. Robinson moved to elect unanimously seconded by Mr. Crimmins. Motion carried 13-0. Chair Parrish asked for nomination of Recording Secretary. Ms. Harjo moved and seconded by Ms. John to approve Mr. Tsoiligh to serve as Recording Secretary. Motion carried 13-0.

E. Selection of Quarterly Meeting dates for 2014

Chairman Parrish

Chair Parrish asked if the meeting being held on Wednesdays would meet approval of the Council. Mr. Pickering asked if the meeting day was a problem for Ms. Hamilton and Ms. John. Ms. John stated that Wednesdays are sometimes a problem for them because of their tribal meetings. The 2nd Tuesday of the month would be designated the day for scheduled meetings and 10:00 a.m. would be the day and time for OACIE meetings. Chair Parrish opened discussion

of the months to conduct the meetings in 2014. Chair Parrish stated that meeting during the month of July would still be a good month to meet to discuss Indian education issues. February 11th, April 8th, July 8th, October 14th are the Tuesday meetings according to the calendar. Chair Parrish stated that the February meeting should be held at OSDE to be convenient for Supt. Barresi. He asked if the Council would like to meet again in the Capitol in April for the convenience of the legislature. Chair Parrish mentioned that OACIE must be reauthorized prior to the end of the legislature in 2014. Chair Parrish stated that the July meeting would be held during the Vision 20/20 Conference. He said that the Chickasaw Nation might be willing to sponsor the meeting in October. Chair Parrish responded that the meeting needs to be held in eastern Oklahoma and Mr. Bible responded that the Muscogee Nation College would be willing to host the October meeting. Chair Parrish asked for a motion to approve meeting places, dates, and time. Ms. Roth motioned to approve the schedule seconded by Mr. Crimmins. Motion carried 12-0.

F. Reauthorization of OACIE

Chairman Parrish

11. Closing Comments and Announcements

Chairperson

Chair Parrish stated that the Profiles 2012 State Report need to be compared with previous reports to see the progress of American Indian scores from year to year. Mr. Pickering responded that he would compile information from 2010 to 2012. Mr. Higdon responded that he would provide information on higher education issues for American Indian students

Ms. Harjo stated that pg. 34 Norman Public Schools had a high population of American Indian students in detention centers. She asked what the figures might be for other districts as well because this is an area of concern that is often overlooked. In the past year, of the 8 boys who were in the detention center in Norman, 3 of the students are now in the Correctional system. Chair Parrish stated that the Council needs to find out how impactful this concern is throughout the state. Mr. Pickering stated that he has worked with a representative of the Justice system and he would ask him where he could find out information (Bryan Hendricks).

Chair Parrish mentioned that a representative of the Big Brothers and Big Sisters requested an opportunity to meet with the Council to provide information about the opportunities this program provides for American Indian children. Also, a request from the Oklahoma Bar Association to provide information to Council members was announced.

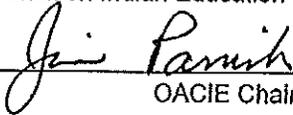
Ms. John asked for more information from Indian education directors which addresses the implementation of Common Core State Standards at the local level. We need feedback from them on the impact of implementation on American Indian students she said. Chair Parrish asked if she would like to have someone present information on this concern. Ms. Harjo remarked that they have attempted to address this issue but have fallen short. She stated that her program has worked with REACH Coaches in the past who did not know about tribal education issues. Ms. John responded that Indian education programs are in the classrooms and should know how the implementation process is being impacted. Need input from numerous Indian education programs across the state. Ms. Roth asked if a survey might be developed which would gather information on this issue. Mr. Crimmins was asked by Chair Parrish to respond to how the implementation process is impacting districts and schools. He supported REACH Coaches for their efforts to help with the implementation in its 2nd year of providing assistance to districts and schools. He stated that a representative from that program could give insight into this process as well. Ms. John responded that she would still want to hear from Indian education programs for their perspective. Mr. Crimmins stated that it may be a little early to assess progress for CCSS. He mentioned the problems with End of Instruction tests that had to

be addressed to clear up that issue. Ms. John expressed concern for young students in having to take these tests and the potential for "test anxiety". Chair Parrish suggested that Mr. Pickering could schedule a presentation from the REACH program and that another report could be made from Indian Education Directors to reflect a grassroots perspective which might be scheduled for the February meeting.

12. Adjournment

Acknowledge support of the American Indian Institute for hosting.

Minutes were provided by Jacob Tsoilgh, Recording Secretary, for the Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education on Feb. 11, 2014 and approved on Feb. 27, 2014.



OACIE Chairperson