Organizational Meeting  
Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education  
Oklahoma State Department of Education, State Board of Education Room, 118  
November 9, 2010

TENTATIVE AGENDA

10:00-10:30 Welcome  
Sandy Garrett  
State Superintendent

Invocation  
Raymond Rogers  
Director of Indian Education  
Sapulpa Public Schools

Introductions  
Dr. Sharon Lease and Valeria Littlecreek  
Assistant State Superintendent  
Accreditation/Standards Section

10:30-11:00 History Behind HB 2929  
70 O.S. § 3-173  
Lisa John  
Administrator of Division of Education  
Chickasaw Nation

11:00-11:30 Update /Issues of Indian Education  
Valeria Littlecreek  
Director of Tribal Affairs  
Indian Education Section

11:30-12:00 Election of Chair/Vice-Chair  
Dr. Sharon Lease/Valeria Littlecreek

12:00-12:45 Lunch (provided)

12:45-1:15 Pertinent Issues for Discussion  
Council Chair

1:15-1:50 Goals of the Council  
Council Chair

1:50-2:00 Closing Comments  
Next Meeting Date/Location  
Announcements  
Closing/Invocation  
Adjournment  
Dr. Sharon Lease/Valeria Littlecreek  
Council member
OACIE

The Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education was created by House Bill 2929 that was proposed by Representatives Coody, Billy, Jett and Senator Justice. This is a new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3-171 of Title 70 and became effective on July 1, 2010 and will continue until July 1, 2014. The Council is composed of eighteen members and, as directed by the Act, will make recommendations, evaluate and make an annual report on the effectiveness of the public education system in meeting the needs of Native American students in Oklahoma.

The Advisory Council will make recommendations to the State Board of Education and the Superintendent of Public Instruction in educational matters affecting the education of Native American students.

The first meeting of the Council was held at the State Department of Education on Tuesday, November 9, 2010. Superintendent Garrett was present to welcome and meet each member of the council, but has designated Dr. Sharon Lease as her designee to serve on the Council.
Pursuant to the provisions of 70 O.S. Section 3-173, State Superintendent Sandy Garrett hosted the first meeting of the newly formed Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education at the State Department of Education on November 9, 2010. All eighteen members were present and listed as follows: Mr. Gregory Anderson, Mrs. Esther Bell, Ms. Ann Brower, Mr. Corey Bunch, Mr. Tom Crimmins, Dr. Houston Davis, Ms. Lori Hamilton, Mrs. Lucyan Harjo, Mr. Nathan Hart, Mrs. Lisa John, Dr. James King, Dr. Henrietta Mann, Ms. Mary McCormick, Mr. Jim Parrish, Mr. Paul Pinkerton, Dr. Joe Robinson, Mr. Raymond Rodgers, Superintendent Sandy Garrett and staff, Dr. Sharon Lease, and Valeria Littlecreek.

Superintendent Garrett opened the meeting and offered welcoming comments. She reminded the members that she would be leaving the state department in January and the Advisory Council would be having quarterly meetings. Today’s meeting is an organizational meeting to get to know one another and to elect the Chair and Vice Chair. Each member was asked to provide a short introduction and some information about themselves.

Mr. Gregory Anderson, appointed by Governor Henry, is the Superintendent of Muscogee Creek Nation’s Eufaula Dormitory which is residential housing for American Indian students attending Eufaula Public Schools. Mr. Anderson is representing Muscogee Creek Nation. He also serves on the National Advisory Council on Indian Education appointed by President Obama.

Mrs. Esther Bell, appointed by President Pro Tempore Glenn Coffey, is a teacher at North Rock Creek Elementary School near Shawnee. She has taught fourth grade for 14 years. Mrs. Bell has held the office of President of her school’s local chapter of Professional Oklahoma Educators.

Ms. Ann Brower, appointed by Governor Henry, is a teacher at Anadarko Public Schools. Ms. Brower is representing the Delaware Nation. Anadarko has a high population of American Indian students.

Mr. Corey Bunch, appointed by Governor Henry, works in the Education Department for Cherokee Nation and is representing his department on the advisory council.

Mr. Tom Crimmins, appointed by Speaker of the House Chris Benge, is the Superintendent of Elgin Public Schools. He represents the state organization for school superintendents.

Dr. Houston Davis represents the Regents for Higher Education. He serves as the Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs and will be the designee for the Chancellor of Higher Education, Glen D. Johnson, to serve on the Advisory Council.

Ms. Lori Hamilton, appointed by Governor Henry, is the Director of Education Services for Chickasaw Nation. She is representing the Chickasaw Nation on the Advisory Council. Lori also serves as a southeast representative on the Oklahoma Council for Indian Education’s (OCIE) Board of Directors.

Mrs. Lucyann Harjo, appointed by Governor Henry, is the Director of Indian Education for Norman Public Schools. She will serve on the Advisory Council as the designee for the Oklahoma Council for Indian Education (OCIE).
Mr. Nathan Hart, was representing Ms. Gena Timberman, the Executive Director of the Native American Cultural & Education Authority, who is designated in the law to serve. Mr. Hart is the Director of Community Affairs for the American Indian Cultural Center & Museum.

Ms. Lisa John, appointed by Governor Henry, is the Administrator over the Education Division for Chickasaw Nation and will be representing that nation on the Advisory Board.

Dr. James King, appointed by the Chancellor for Higher Education Glen D. Johnson, is representing the Oklahoma tribal colleges. Dr. King is the Regents Director of Institutional Effectiveness for the College of the Muscogee Nation.

Dr. Henrietta Mann, appointed by Governor Henry, is the President of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal College. She is also the Special Assistant to the President of Montana State College.

Ms Mary McCormick, appointed by Governor Henry, is a retired educator and will represent the Sac and Fox Education Department.

Mr. Jim Parrish, appointed by Governor Henry, is the Director of the Language Center for Choctaw Nation. He is a former school superintendent.

Mr. Paul Pinkerton, appointed by President Pro Tempore Glenn Coffey, is the Superintendent of Belfonte Elementary School and represents the statewide teacher organization.

Dr. Joe Robinson is the designee for the Oklahoma Department of Career & Technology Education. He serves as the manager of Technology services.

Mr. Ray Rodgers, appointed by Governor Henry, is the Director of Indian Education for Sapulpa Public Schools. He is representing the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe on the Advisory Board.

Superintendent Garrett had to leave before introductions were completed and turned the meeting over to Dr. Sharon Lease.

Dr. Sharon Lease will serve as Superintendent Garrett’s designee. She is the Assistant State Superintendent over Accreditation/Indian Education/School Personnel at the State Department of Education.

Valeria Littlecreek is Muscogee Creek and the Director of Tribal Affairs/Indian Education at the State Department of Education. She has been asked to assist Dr. Lease with the Advisory Council.

After introductions were completed, Ray Rodgers gave the invocation. Lisa John gave a short history of the process that led up to the development and passing of HB 2929 and the Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education. She explained how she started the task force in 2005 that included various educators and Representatives Billy and Jett. A proposal was drafted and sent to the representatives to use in an interim study. A power point presentation was made to the Native American Caucus but it was delayed. Then Representative Ann Coody and Senator Justice took the opportunity to do an interim study. Members of the Task Force created support documents and the process quickly began to make HB 2929 a mandate.

Valeria Littlecreek gave an update on other areas of Indian Education that were being dealt with or had positive highlights. These included the positive results of the NCES Testing, OCIE activities, planning of the NIEA, 2012 Convention in Oklahoma City, the 400 Title VII Indian Education Programs in the state, and the Consortium of Directors of Indian Education in the OKC area. A negative issue mentioned was the continued re-enactment of the Land Run in public schools. Other thoughts and ideas were discussed.

Election of a chair and vice-chair of the Advisory Council was next on the agenda. The floor was opened for nominations for Chairperson. Jim Parrish nominated Lisa John as Chair and
Tom Crimmins gave a second to the motion. Dr. Mann made a motion to accept Lisa John by acclamation. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed. Next, the floor was open for nominations for Vice-Chairperson. Greg Anderson nominated Dr. James King and Ray Rodgers gave a second. Dr. King declined the nomination due to the amount of work and time needed to work on the accreditation process for the College of the Muscogee Nation. Paul Pinkerton then nominated Corey Bunch and Dr. Robinson gave a second. Also, Ray Rodgers nominated Dr. Henrietta Mann with a second by Esther Bell. It was decided that a show of hands would be used over secret ballots. Corey Bunch won the position of Vice-Chair by a 12 to 6 vote.

The Advisory Council recessed for lunch that was provided by the Kickapoo Casino from McAlester, OK. Dr. Henrietta gave the blessing for the meal.

After lunch, the meeting was turned over to the new Chair, Lisa John. Ms. John reviewed the rules and goals of the new law for the Advisory Council. Discussion was made on getting information and reports for the following:

- The date to submit the annual report
- The number of Native American teachers in Oklahoma
- Enrollment data for Native American students in Oklahoma
- Graduation data for Native American students in Oklahoma
- How many Native America students take advantage of OHLAP
- What Oklahoma colleges/universities have programs for Native American students?
- How many Native American students are in Native American programs?

Other discussion focused on the cultural competence of teachers and that professional development of Oklahoma teachers needs to be addressed. They don’t understand Sovereignty. Chairperson Lisa John also mentioned the PASS Skills and the Common Core Standards.

Chairperson Lisa John wants to submit an introductory report to the legislators by the opening session of the Legislature in early February. A draft will be sent to Valeria Littlecreek in January to be issued to all council members. Valeria Littlecreek will send the complete directory of members to Lisa John. Lisa John will also send a copy of the interim study to Valeria Littlecreek to be emailed to the members.

Dr. James King announced the dedication ceremonies for the new College of the Muscogee Nation on December 17, 2010. Ray Rodgers announced the annual Stomp Dance for Sapulpa Public Schools will also be held on Friday night, December 17, 2010.

The date for the next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, January 11, 2011 from 10:00 - 2:00 pm. at the State Department so the Advisory Council could meet the new State Superintendent.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm.

Minutes were provided by Regina Rayburn via tape recorder transcription for the Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education on December 15, 2010, and approved on January 11, 2011.

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Lisa John, Chairperson  Date