

Oklahoma Advisory Council for Indian Education  
Quarterly Meeting  
Oklahoma State Department of Education  
Oklahoma City, OK  
Tuesday, September 18, 2012

- I. Welcome – Ray Rodgers, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:42 p.m. Welcomed everyone . Invocation was given by Jacob Tsoitigh, Recording Secretary. Guests included Rep. Jerry McPeak of , Desa Dawson, Stacey Halfmoon of AICCM, Angela Smith of Stillwater Indian Education Program
- II. Roll Call – Greg Anderson, Tom Crimmins, Lori Hamilton, Dr. James King, Mary McCormick, Paul Pinkerton, Chair Rodgers, Lucyann Harjo, Esther Bell, Dwight Pickering, Nancy Fields, – Present. Ann Brower, Dr. Houston Davis, Dr. Henrietta Mann, Alice Rushmore for Dr. Joe Robinson, Ms. Lisa John – Absent. Ann Brower has submitted her resignation to the Council.
- III. Chair welcomed Rep. Jerry McPeak, and he gave remarks about his role as a teacher and the field of education. Expressed concern about those less fortunate than most and students who were concerned more about careers than college. Proud of being an Indian. Asked for input on issues before the legislature. Chair Rodgers acknowledged Desa Dawson, Angela Smith, Stacey Halfmoon, and Quinton RomanNose. Ms. Halfmoon explained the mission of the AICCM.
- IV. Invocation was given by Jacob Tsoitigh
- V. Minutes - Chair Rodgers asked for changes in the minutes. Mr. Crimmins motioned to approve the minutes. Seconded by Jim Parrish. Motion carried 9-0-2.
- VI. **Old Business**
  - A. **Update on School Report Card** - Michael Flory, Executive Director of the Office of Accountability, will give a report on the status of School Report Cards. He stated that he would give a Question and Answer session about Report Cards. Misunderstood that a request for presentation was made. Mr. Parrish asked about the percentages and status. Mr. Pinkerton asked if the Report Cards had been updated by some schools. Mr. Flory responded that they have been updated. He offered to provide a PowerPoint to the Council and Chair Rodgers agreed. Rep. McPeak stated that he had a meeting this morning on this topic. He said the process was unearthly complex. Mr. Crimmins stated that the scores were embargoed and that the Report Cards will be reflected for each site not district. Schools were given 30 days to appeal the scores and Elgin had 2 school sites that were appealing their scores. He remarked about a story in the Daily Oklahoman and the scores of all the school sites in Oklahoma. Most were Bs and Cs for the state. An oversimplification of the traditional A-F scoring system. Most of the school districts in the state are in the appeal process. Rep. McPeak stated that a study had been done and the scores were like a Bell Curve even though he was told that was not the case.

Mr. Flory gave a presentation concerning the new accountability system which is a format in a report card format which is different from AYP used prior to the new system. He talked about the classification of the School Improvement program. Comprised of three main sections: Student achievement, Student growth, and Whole School Performance.

- i. Student Achievement Section
  1. Performance Index
- ii. Student Growth Section
  1. Growth is divided into two sub-categories
  2. All students in a school worth 17% of the final grade
  3. Bottom 25% of students in a school worth 17% of the final grade
  4. OSTP Reading and Math exams only (Grades 3-8 OCCT Reading and Math, Algebra I EOI, English II EOI).
  5. Students identified in the first section paired with a previous test score to evaluate growth.
  6. Scores paired with similar versions of the exam. For example, a modified exam to modified exam.
  7. Growth Index: Bottom 25%
    - a. Only students with a pre-score proficient
    - b. Points
- iii. Whole School Performance
  - a. Student Attendance rate
  - b. Drop out rate
  - c. Graduation rate
  - d. Advanced Course participation and performance
  - e. College entrance exam participation and performance
  - f. Cohort graduation rate for low-performing eight grade students
  - g. Five plus year graduation rate
  - h. Participation in ACE graduation criteria curriculum
  - i. Staff and patron survey data
  - j. College remediation rates
  - k. Parent/community volunteer hours

Mr. Flory explained the format of the Report Card that districts will be receiving. Mr. Crimmins asked what percent were student test scores last year and Mr. Flory responded that he didn't know. He stated that under the old API system in a couple years almost all the districts would be on School Improvement list. Chair Rodgers responded that most districts grades would go down next year because of the new system. Mr. Crimmins asked if the State had received a lot of appeals. Mr. Flory responded that they had not received many at this point but will allow schools to continue to input data that would increase the school's scores. Mr. Flory demonstrated a district reporting site on the OSDE website. He gave an overview of the various components factored to produce a district's Report Card. Ms. McCormick stated that the purpose of education should be to produce tax paying citizens and not every student is college material. Mr. RomanNose remarked that poverty is a big issue in some districts rather than others. Mr. Flory responded that this data was not included in the Report Cards. Chair Rodgers asked if there were any surprises in this process. Mr.

Flory responded that schools have been more attentive to data. Mr. Crimmins asked if this grading system was developed by Oklahoma or did it come from another source. Mr. Flory responded that this was generated within the state. Mr. Parrish asked if school scores were going to be reported on OSDE website and Mr. Flory responded that scores would be posted.

- B. Native American Language Certification – Chair Rodgers reported that he had spoken with Dode Barnett of the Muscogee Nation about language certification and he asked Ms. Dawson about that process. Ms. Dawson responded that the State has been working on this issue and shared that it will ask for new rule on certification. “Federal legislation directs that we allow exceptions for federal programs to include native American languages from the Native American Language Act” Read from Senate Concurrent Resolution 37:
- i. “...the Oklahoma State Legislature encourages the teaching and learning of Native American languages at all levels of instruction.
  - ii. ...the Oklahoma State Legislature opposes artificial barriers to the instruction or learning of Native American languages and encourages all education authorities to take all appropriate steps to promote and encourage the instruction and learning of Native American languages.
  - iii. ...the Oklahoma State Legislature urges the Superintendent of Public Instruction to take appropriate measures to foster respect for Native American languages and to vigilantly address any situations that may occur where proper respect for Native American languages is not provided.

Ms. Dawson stated that there is a proficiency based promotion for community based language programs for school credit with district agreement. Ms. McCormick asked for copy of the Legislative and Rule Change Requests from Ms. Dawson. She stated that her report was very well done. Ms. Dawson said that World Languages have been a requirement since 1990. She stated that we still do not have the language teachers needed to address this requirement. Ms. Dawson stated that she made a report to the State Board of Education on world languages including native languages. Mr. RomanNose remarked that 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Language Fair in Norman was larger than ever before which shows progress at the public school level. He stated that there needs to be some middle ground between tribes and schools to share resources. Ms. Dawson responded that we need to pass this legacy on with teacher prep programs, community based programs, etc. to address the urgency of language revitalization. He mentioned the need for immersion programs at local school districts. Ms. Dawson gave a list of districts that now have immersion programs. Ms. McCormick remarked that she had that experience growing up and that we need to get back to the “Dick and Jane” type book series. She mentioned having written a language primer for the Sac & Fox Nation although she cannot speak the language. Ms. Dawson explained the process for Language changes to including the public hearing format. Mr. Parrish stated that the Choctaw Nation has 12 districts that the Choctaw Language is the only World Language in those districts. He said that his job is to maintain the efforts of language revitalization. Ms. Fields asked what the opportunity for using technology for addressing this issue. Ms. Dawson responded that the State is looking into this concept but that live feedback might be an issue for language classrooms. She stated that she

wanted to know who was teaching, the methods utilized. Chair Rodgers asked about certification of native language teachers. Ms. Dawson responded that the State would not require certification but would defer to tribes to provide certification of native speakers.

Chair Rodgers asked if the Council wanted to vote on a resolution. Ms. McCormick made a motion for the Council to recommend a process for OSDE native language teacher certification and was seconded by Mr. Crimmins. Motioned carried 12-0

- C. **Update on SDE Website link to OACIE** - Chair Rodgers stated that he had reviewed that website and it was looking good. Mr. Pickering said that lady who maintained it had left the department. He stated that changes could be made internally despite her departure and they could add elements with approval. Mr. Parrish asked if there were links to other tribes and Mr. Pickering said that he had received a link from Chair Rodgers about a library resource that included a number of tribal links. Ms. McCormick stated that the Council had a responsibility for communication between state entities and that it was incumbent for the Council to do that.
  - D. **Update on Native American Curriculum** – Mr. Pickering said that copies of the curriculum guides which were developed in the past have been added to the website and that copies were available for members of the Council. He stated that the Curriculum Committee he had formed was on hold until language issues were addressed that had emerged. He stated that he had communicated with 24 tribes about the language issues before OSDE. He reported that OCIE has asked for a presentation from the Indian Education Section at its annual conference in December.
  - E. **Update on OACIE Open Positions** - Chair Rodgers reported that he had met with Ms. Hensley about the open positions and she was not aware of this issue. He gave her some information about requirements for filling the vacancies. Mr. Pickering did email Chris Bruel in the Governor’s office about this process. Mr. Parrish asked if they were going to send an announcement about the vacancies from the Governor’s office. Ms. McCormick asked if a letter might be needed to be sent to Mr. Bruel in the Governor’s office.
  - F. **NIEA Attendees, Registration Information** - Mr. Pickering reported that the Supt. Would support paying registration fees for Council members who were interested in attending the NIEA Convention and that five members of the Council had responded with interest.
- VII. New Business
- A. **Interim Study – Funding for SDE** - Mr. RomanNose spoke about events at NIEA Convention that are being planned in Oklahoma City and invited the Council to attend the President’s Reception on Wednesday. He gave a list of meetings that are planned for pre-conference meetings on that day as well. Mr. RomanNose gave an overview of the process undertaken to support development of an interim study for the state legislature to support appropriation for elements to address Indian education issues in the state. Dr. Bohanon, President of the Pawnee Nation Tribal College, spoke about

accreditation issues for tribal colleges including resources designated for that process. He stated that Oklahoma tribal colleges are confronting accreditation. Sustainability of this process has been an issue in connection with a tribe. Funding for teachers and programs are issues for tribal colleges. American Indian studies programs have begun to include Tribal economic development, gaming as emerging areas of study for tribal colleges. He stated that discussions have taken place about a consortium of colleges to address this area of study. Connecting high schools to tribal colleges is another issue. Grants are not sustainable as far as tribal colleges are concerned. He stated that tribal colleges could help with the native language teacher certification programs. Need that connection to the state through a liaison position at the Board of Regents. Mr. RomanNose mentioned the Cradle to Career movement that is emerging and elimination of silos from the various organizations including tribal colleges. Chair Rodgers mentioned that he had submitted a request to the State Department for information on the gaming compacts which address funding formulas and he is waiting for the Open Meetings response.

- B. **OACIE Resolution 12-001** - Chair Rodgers submitted a resolution to the Council which outlined support for the Interim Study's recommended. Motion to approve the resolution made by Ms. McCormick and seconded by Ms. Harjo. Ms. Harjo stated that this resolution was critical. Motion passed 10-0.
- C. **Closing Comments/Announcements** - Chair Rodgers introduced Ms. Bren Smith, a member of the Oklahoma Publishing Company, who made comments on the service provided by the Daily Oklahoman to develop American Indian resources for classroom teachers and students. Ms. Harjo mentioned a resource, "One State, Many Nations", that would be a great resource for classroom teachers.

Mr. RomanNose mentioned a realignment of the Bureau of Indian Education that would eliminate the Oklahoma City office as one of the Education Line Office. Next meeting will be held at the Comanche Nation Complex in Elgin, OK, at 10:00 a.m. on Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>. Motion to adjourn by Ms. McCormick and seconded by Mr. Parrish.

Minutes were provided by Jacob Tsothigh, Recording Secretary for the Oklahoma Advisory Council for Indian Education, on \_\_\_\_\_ and approved on \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting adjourned at 2:54 p.m.

