**SD Indian Education Advisory Council Meeting**

April 20, 2018, 1:30-5:00pm CST in MacKay Conference Room 5, Pierre SD

**Participants:** Dave Archambault Sr, Steve Emery, Cherie Farlee, Sherry Johnson (on conference call), Cheryl Medearis, Marta Neuman, Mato Standing High. Laura Scheibe (presenter), Carla Leingang (presenter).

**Prayer & Welcome:** Mato opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Dave led us in prayer.

Abbreviations:

CTE—Career and Technical Education

DOE—Department of Education

IEAC—Indian Education Advisory Council

IES—Indian Education Summit

RFP—Request For Presentation (proposal)

TED—Tribal Education Director

**Approval of last meeting minutes:** Motion to approve February 28, 2018 IEAC meeting minutes made by Cheryl; Steve seconded; all in favor. Minutes approved. Quorum of five present today.

**Updates on major projects from Mato Standing High:**

* **Paraprofessional Scholarships:** 12 participants working towards teaching degrees; 2-3 will graduate soon. All 12 are invited to attend IES and will be recognized/honored there.
* **Achievement Schools:** Todd County Middle School is doing very well; He Dog K-8 Elementary is a bit behind but started later. He Dog hired a fellow but that person’s contract was non-renewed since Todd County School Board requires the fellow to hold a teaching certificate. Also, Todd County’s school superintendent is leaving.There is an option to extend the grant one additional year to 2020.  
  Both schools are showing great growth in Language Arts and Mathematics, meeting or exceeding their goals. TCMS’s ‘recovery room’ has greatly reduced behavioral issues. Working with Regional Education Lab for evaluation strategies for both schools: Dorothy Aguilera-Black Bear/DOE Accountability, is assisting with that setup. TCMS is looking at a growth measurement model. According to the grant the schools must also have an independent evaluator. Factors such as attendance, behavior, proficiency can be measured now, but it will take several years to evaluate results overall. Dave suggested assessment models; charter schools do a lot of evaluations and could be contacted about the tools they use.
* **Discussion on teacher shortages:** SD overall has a difficult time filling all teaching positions; it is even more difficult at reservation schools in smaller, rural communities. Stability is an issue with high staff turnover. SDSU started the Wokini Initiative, partly to help channel more Native Americans into education programs.

**Laura Scheibe/DOE—Graduation requirements:** (see handout) This is also available on the DOE website, and has been shared at TED meetings. Laura noted that SD graduation requirements have not been updated in ten years, and needed to be upgraded to better fit today’s (and future) student needs. The handout indicates a side-by-side comparison of the proposed changes, and the current requirements. Proposed changes, while still rigorous, allows more flexibility for students to find their own path through high school to prepare for success after graduation—which might include preparation for entering the workforce, attending a technical institute, or attending a four-year college program. Current requirements do not work for all students, or for local workforce needs. Proposed changes strip away many required courses, and more flexibility for students and school districts with English and mathematics. The proposed ‘base diploma’ is not necessarily preparation for all students; ‘endorsements’ are stackable options equally relevant and valuable (see pg. 2). Timeline: about a month for comments about the proposed changes, then information will be presented to the Board of Education Standards at their May 8 meeting, then open for public comments before the full hearing at the July Board of Education Standards meeting.

Discussion on schools offering (and paying for) more CTE options to offer their students, and how to find qualified teachers. Laura noted that almost all of the SD public schools offer at least one CTE course; others are offered as virtual school and/or dual credit, and at regional technical high schools. CTE includes 16 different career clusters, and some grants are available for schools to set up CTE courses. Often these course offerings provide much-needed local workforce training for students. CTE classwork often includes hands-on application of concepts from geometry, writing, algebra, etc.

Laura noted that we are challenging districts to provide offerings for students and different curricula. Mass customized learning, CTE, other innovations can help engage students.

Dave asked about the expected outcomes from these proposed changes—will 12th graders read at grade level? Many current 12th graders can only read at about 8th grade level. Dave noted several foundations (e.g. Bush) interested in student successes.

**2018 IES Planning:** (see handout) Overall theme ‘Unity for Youth’. Emphasis on OSEU&S with a full-day indepth training on Monday Sept. 24; teaching the history and culture is so important. Standards were created well with elder input from the start. Teachers need to have better understanding and feel more comfortable with it; many learn alongside their students. OSEU created to benefit Natives and non-Natives alike.

Youth Day on Tuesday Sept. 25: To include a student panel, a ‘college fair’, keynote luncheon, Native American games, possibly others.

‘Supaman’/popular Native DJ and public speaker is being contacted/could be keynote on Youth Day.

Steve noted new legislation that allows students to use eagle feathers or other cultural items at graduation ceremonies.

Other tentative plans: Shawn Sherman/OST from SD internationally recognized chef of Native cuisine; we may seek donated indigenous foods to serve at IES under his direction.

Additional suggestions from IEAC:

Ken Robinson, Steph Curry, Sonya Clifford, student athletes, Donovan Sprague, Mary Little Sky with dancers, Doug Thomas—hope survey and project-based learning

IEAC is asked to share RFP with others interested in presenting at the Summit, and to promote attending the Summit. Our goal is to reach as many people as we can, and share this opportunity!

Page 2

**Review of by-laws and membership for compliance:** (see handouts)

Art. II, part 1: (Mato noted that IEAC has limited powers)

Art. II, part 2: (Mato noted that this will be addressed through our report, and can revisit this in

the future)

Art. II, part 7: (no report submitted this year)

Art. II, new part 8 (proposed by Dave; was discussed at Feb. 28 meeting/no action taken)

Art. III, part 2: (indicates about 20 members total)

Art. VI: (reading done here today, and voted to amend by-laws as presented today)

Cheryl made motion to amend; Cherie seconded; all in favor, none opposed. Motion

carried unanimously.

**Carla Leingang/DOE—Paraprofessional regulations:** Carla provided a list of Paraprofessional Certification Requirements (see handout). She will revisit at our next IEAC meeting.

**Other:**

* **2019 State Tribal Relations Day** Steve noted that the Tribal Relations Office would like to partner with Education for this event in January, 2019. Past partners have been Dept. of Social Services, Dept. of Health, Dept. of Agriculture, etc.

**Next meeting:** Friday, July 13, 2018 in Pierre. Marta will set up meeting room.

Respectfully submitted by

Marta Neuman

 April 26, 2018

Mato Standing High Date

SD Indian Education Director