



## SD Indian Education Advisory Council

# 2025 Annual Report



Prepared by:  
Fred Osborn, Director of the Office of Indian Education  
Department of Tribal Relations

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## INTRODUCTION

The South Dakota Indian Education Advisory Council (SD IEAC) is hereby sharing the following recommendations to all stakeholders involved in the education of Native American students in South Dakota. The SD IEAC membership consists of Indian Education experts from across the state and region who are recommended by their schools, organizations, tribes, and communities. Council members work collectively to close the educational opportunity gap and increase academic achievement for all Native American students in South Dakota. The Office of Indian Education and the Department of Tribal Relations will continue to work in collaboration with the South Dakota Department of Education and, if funded, the Region Comprehensive Center to support the efforts of the SD IEAC.

### *South Dakota Indian Education Advisory Council Membership*

Dayna Brave Eagle	Tribal Designee	Oglala Sioux Tribe
Dr. Cherie Farlee	Tribal Designee	Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe
Dr. Sherry Johnson	Tribal Designee	Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate
Starla Spotted Horse	Tribal Designee	Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
Rosemary Clairmont	Tribal Designee	Rosebud Sioux Tribe
Vacant	Tribal Designee	Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe
Brian Wagner	Tribal Designee	Lower Brule Tribe

Peter Lengkeek	Tribal Designee	Crow Creek Sioux Tribe
Jolene Arrow	Tribal Designee	Yankton Sioux Tribe
Brian Brown	Public School District Representative	White River School District
Dr. Ann Robertson	Public School District Representative	Whittier Middle School
Megan Deal	Public School District Representative	Pierre School District
Josie Green	Member at Large	Teach for America – South Dakota
Kay Schallenkamp	Member at Large	
Rich Meyer	SD Board of Education Standards Representative	SD Board of Education Standards
Janice Minder	SD Board of Regents Representative	SD Board of Regents
Stephanie Hageman	SD Education Association President	South Dakota Education Association
Algin Young	Ex-officio Member	Department of Tribal Relations
Dr. Joseph Graves	Ex-officio Member	Department of Education
Fred Osborn	Executive Director	SD Office of Indian Education
Tammy Matson	Council Secretary	SD Office of Indian Education

Pursuant to SDCL 1-54-11, the South Dakota Indian Education Advisory Council shall make an annual report to the Governor and the State-Tribal Relations Committee by January first each year. The report will be submitted to the Governor’s Office, Secretary of Tribal Relations, and Tribal Leaders.

The South Dakota IEAC met on the following dates:

Date	Facilitator	Role
December 26, 2024	Executive Director Fred Osborn	Director, Office of Indian Education
April 2, 2025	Executive Director Fred Osborn	Director, Office of Indian Education
July 14, 2025	Executive Director Fred Osborn	Director, Office of Indian Education
November 13, 2025	Executive Director Fred Osborn	Director, Office of Indian Education

## **SOUTH DAKOTA INDIAN EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **2025 RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **SCIENCE OF READING GRANTS**

The South Dakota Indian Education Advisory Council hereby requests that the South Dakota Department of Education and South Dakota Office of Indian Education ensure that any data for the Science of Reading grants be disaggregated to identify Native American students and provide an updated data report in 2026.

#### **ADDRESSING STUDENT ATTENDANCE/ABSENTEEISM**

The South Dakota Indian Education Advisory Council hereby requests the South Dakota Department of Education continue to monitor chronic absenteeism and provide a research and data report on Native student attendance to include absences, reasons for absences, and best practices by schools with low absenteeism.

#### **WELLNESS PROGRAM STUDY**

The South Dakota Indian Education Advisory Council hereby requests that the South Dakota Office of Indian Education and Comprehensive Center repeat the Wellness Programs Survey conducted in 2024, and share the results from this survey, as well as the ongoing project, with the South Dakota Indian Education Advisory Council.

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION RATE**

The South Dakota Indian Education Advisory Council hereby requests that the South Dakota Department of Education complete a study on Native American high school completion rates to identify reasons for student drop out prior to completion, including any identifiable reasons for the disparity between State completion rates and Native American (only) completion rates.

#### **STUDENT ENGAGEMENT**

The South Dakota Indian Education Advisory Council hereby requests that the South Dakota Department of Education complete a study on the positive impact of student engagement programs which increase (or potentially increase) Native American completion rates.

## CONCLUSION

The South Dakota Indian Education Advisory Council continues to advocate for the improvement of educational opportunities for South Dakotan Native American students. The above recommendations are provided by the IEAC stakeholders as guidance for the State of South Dakota and the agencies it governs, as we all work toward the goal and promise of educational equity for students. All institutions, organizations and others involved in the education of Native American students should use these recommendations to inform their efforts.

In addition, the following actions were taken by the South Dakota Office of Indian Education and the South Dakota Department of Education in response to the 2024 SD IEAC Annual Report and Recommendations:

## SCIENCE OF READING GRANTS

The South Dakota Indian Education Advisory Council hereby requests that the South Dakota Department of Education and South Dakota Office of Indian Education ensure that any data for the Science of Reading grants be disaggregated to identify Native American students.

**The South Dakota Department of Education, by and through the South Dakota Office of Indian Education, provided members of the council the *Native American Annual Data Request Report* on November 3, 2025.**

## ADDRESSING STUDENT ATTENDANCE/ABSENTEEISM

The South Dakota Indian Education Advisory Council hereby requests the South Dakota Department of Education continue to monitor chronic absenteeism and provide a research and data report on Native student attendance to include absences, reasons for absences, and best practices by schools with low absenteeism.

**The South Dakota Department of Education, by and through the South Dakota Office of Indian Education, provided members of the council the *Native American Annual Data Request Report* on November 3, 2025.**

## WELLNESS PROGRAM STUDY

The South Dakota Indian Education Advisory Council hereby requests that the South Dakota Office of Indian Education and Region 8 Comprehensive Center repeat the Wellness Programs Survey conducted in 2024, and share the results from this survey, as well as the ongoing project, with the South Dakota Indian Education Advisory Council.

**The South Dakota Office of Indian Education met with the Region 8 Comprehensive Center bi-weekly during the months of January and February of 2025. During these meetings, the Region 8 Comprehensive Center was advised of the request by this council to repeat the Wellness Programs Survey conducted in 2024. The comprehensive center agreed, and reviews of the survey were initiated. On February 20, 2025, the grant for the Region 8 Comprehensive Center was terminated by the US Department of Education, effective immediately.**