

Minutes

Indian Education Parent Advisory Committee

January 19, 2021 6:00-7:00 p.m.
Google Meet

A. Call to order: meeting called to order at 6:04 pm.

B. Roll call observed

Members present: Matt Conley, Leo Canez, Hilary Manion, Kristin Sobilo, Linda Gillette

Members absent: James Gensaw, Bella Vigil

Program Staff present: Rachel Bass, Shawna Morales, Mary Leipzig, Tayler Fant

Program Staff absent: None

Guests: Michael Dyer, Elise McLaughlin Feliz, Snowbird White

C. Announcement of a quorum: Quorum Present

D. Public Questions or Comments (speakers are limited to three minutes each): Michael Davies-Hughes acknowledged program staff and Elsie McLaughlin Feliz from the education department with the Yurok tribe and Michael Dyer who joined to share a new grant that ECS will be part of.

E. Reading, or waiver thereof, and approval of the [minutes](#) of the previous meeting: Matt Conley moved to approve the minutes from December 8th, Hilary Manion seconded. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

F. Approval of the agenda of the current meeting: Hilary Manion moved to approve the current agenda, Matt Conley seconded the motion. No discussion, motion carried.

G. Reports of PAC members

Matt Conley reported that he continues to stay informed via various school Board meetings.

Kristin Sobilo reported that virtual learning is in a routine, learning hubs have been launched this week for students that were having difficulty accessing distance learning from home, students with disabilities, and students receiving intervention services. Facebook has been a great resource to connect with families.

Hilary Manion reported that her son completed his California Native American Tribe project, she noted surprise at the topic selection made a big impact on the outcome of the project. Leo Canez stated that in the past he believed that his own son's projects have been disregarded and we need to make sure a member of the PAC is a judge. Hilary will look into the selection process.

Leo Canez stated that meetings should not be started without an opening prayer.

Linda Gillette did not have an update to share.

H. Program staff reports

Mary Leipzig reported that she is working with 67 students and is still learning new tricks with technology. She has added various videos that James Gensaw has created for Yurok language which the students really enjoy. For the future she is looking for more Native American texts to read with her students and even high school students that would be interested in reading with the students. Leo cautioned that Mary should be aware of the language she uses when describing the texts she is reading with her students so as to not disregard Native American history.

Taylor Fant reported that everything has been going very well, students have transitioned back from break. He has been reading with students and making videos of himself reading to share via Screencastify. He keeps in contact with parents with phone calls, emails, and weekly recaps. He will continue to gather permission slips from families.

Rachel Bass reported that 269 students in total grades 6-12 are being served. Students are coming back to campus. Student engagement has been a challenge, she continues to check in with families to help get students excited about school.

Shawna Morales reported that things have been busy with the end of the quarter approaching. She has been working with her middle school students and some high school students with IEPs and 504 plans. She wanted to highlight two students that had been failing all classes and are now passing all. Her biggest challenge is staying in contact with the students that do not regularly check the Indian Education Google Classroom.

I. Old or unfinished business

- New Grant Award: [Native Educational Choices and Empowerment Program](#) - Guest Speaker: Michael Dyer - seeks to serve every student in Humboldt and Del Norte county. Focus right now is on planning, implementation will begin at the start of the 21-22 school year. Services available to Native American students, looking to address issues that may impact the student successes. The grant period started in October 2020 and ends in 2025. The grant prioritizes serving Native American students in the way they want to be supported. The individual districts will decide which types of services will be made available. Michael Davies-Hughes wanted to know what the "ask" of ECS and

the PAC was. Michael Dyer responded that parents will be asked for input and community involvement and he will reach out to the District via email.

- Matt Conley moved to table the remaining agenda items to the next meeting, Hilary Manion seconded the motion. Leo stated these items need to be prioritized for the next meeting. Matt further suggested that the PAC expedite program staff reports and PAC member reports so the focus can be on action items. Leo requested that the program staff complete an assessment of which school is most supportive of Native American students, he clarified that the schools that are most engaged with the program staff are going to be most supportive of students. Michael Davies-Hughes asked if that was the direction of the PAC. Leo further stated that if he could not ask that question as an individual he would resign from the PAC and requested it be noted in the minutes. Linda Gillette asked what Leo planned on doing with the information once provided. Leo stated that he would ask to have the student's names and phone numbers and he would reach out to them himself on behalf of the district. Linda further asked if the district would be able to provide the information to Leo. Leo stated that he knew the district would not be able to provide that information.
- Matt moved again to table the three remaining agenda items, Linda seconded the motion. Leo requested that an opening prayer be added to future meetings. Leo moved that we add an opening prayer to each meeting. Michael asked for clarification regarding the prayer because there is a separation of church and state for public meetings. Michael offered to provide direction on the legality of prayer at public meetings ahead of the next meeting. Motion to table the remaining agenda items of Allowable activities for the use to Title funds, decisions on the use of Title funds, and Review of the Native American Report card carried.
- [Allowable activities for use of federal Title VI funds](#)
- Decisions on use of Title VI funds

J. New Business

- Review Findings in [Native American Report Card](#)

K. Items from the floor (speakers are limited to three minutes each)

L. Adjournment: meeting adjourned at 7:48 pm

Meeting Norms - Indian Education PAC 2020-21

- Members shall show-up with an open mind and good intentions with a focus on supporting ECS Native American students and families
- Be prepared, stay on topic, and stick to the meeting agenda

- Be succinct, concrete, and explicit when speaking. Share airtime with others
- Begin and end on time
- Refrain from using cell phones or computers for checking email during meetings
- Before speaking, ask yourself, “is what I’m about to say going to add value to the work and the team or would it be better to address outside the meeting?”
- Listen to understand, and ask if you don’t understand
- Wait until the person speaking is finished before talking
- Disagree with ideas, not people
- For meetings held virtually via a video chat platform (Google Meet, Zoom), keep camera on whenever possible

Norms Approved by PAC on December 8, 2020