Eureka City Schools Indian Education Public Hearing Meeting Minutes
April 7, 2026
Location: 2100 J Street, Room 114
Eureka CA 95501

I.CALL TO Order - the meeting was called to order by Chairperson Melissa Defenbaugh at 5:18 PM

II. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT - Shawna Morales read the Land Acknowledgment

III. ROLL CALL
Present:

- Melissa Defenbaugh (Chairperson)
- Cara Figas (Parent Representative)
- Rachel Brakeman (Parent Representative)
- Hilary Manion (Teacher Representative)
- Thomas Smith (Student Representative)
- Shawna Morales (NonVoting Member)

Absent:

- Teresa McGinnis (Vice Chairperson)
- Heather Martin (Second Vice Chairperson)
- Kristin Sobilo (NonVoting Member)

IV. Quorum: Established per Article IV Section 1 of the Bylaws.

V. PUBLIC QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS- None were presented

VI. PUBLIC HEARING INDIAN EDUCATION FORMULA GRANT

- Assistant Superintendent Jennifer Johnson provided a PowerPoint presentation
    - Discussion points included
        - The need to add support in Math and Science programs at the Middle Schools
        - The success of past cultural enrichments and the continuation and expansion of these opportunities
        - Creating culturally responsive early childhood programs and activities
        - The continuing need for culturally responsive support for all grade levels
        - Update on Native language instruction

VII. APPROVAL OF THE EASIE PART 11 APPLICATION FOR THE 2026-2027 YEAR

- As the application had not been completed, this item was tabled

VIII. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 PM by Cara Figas

-----Land Acknowledgment Text

The Indian Education Parent Advisory Committee of Eureka City Schools acknowledges that the land on which Eureka City Schools sits is Wiyot ancestral land, and Humboldt is the unceded territory and traditional ancestral homeland of the Indigenous nations: Hupa, Karuk, Mattole, Tolowa, Wailaki, Wiyot, Yurok, and other original inhabitants of Humboldt County. We respect and share our gratitude to Indigenous communities. We thank and honor the original caretakers of this land that continues to be cherished and protected, as elders have instructed the young through generations.