

**DRAFT Minutes**  
Washington State Native American Education Advisory Committee  
January 15, 2020 (via ZOOM)

**WSNAEAC Participants:**

Dorothy Apple  
Sally Brownfield  
Cindy Kelly  
Jennifer LeBret  
Joseph Martin  
Zoe Higheagle Strong  
Elese Washines  
Jarrod Da  
Jeremy Rouse  
Patricia Whitefoot  
Buddy Bear  
Michelle Parkin  
Anna Armstrong

**Not able to Participate**

Joel Boyd  
Thomas Strong  
David Littleton  
Pam Austin  
Sara Marie Ortiz  
Joe Davalos

**Other Participants:**

Laura Lynn, ONE/OSPI  
Gayle Pauley, Assistant Superintendent, OSPI  
Joan Banker, ONE/OSPI  
Cina Littlebird, Northwest Justice Project  
Katie Weaver Randle, Director of Student Information, OSPI  
Jessica Vavrus, Region 16 Comprehensive Center

A quorum was declacared and Jennifer LeBret, WSNAEAC Chair, called the meeting to order.

Elese Washines moved to approve the 1/15/20 WSNAEAC meeting agenda. Joseph Martin seconded. Motion carried.

**9/12/19 WSNAEAC Meeting Minutes**

Edits to 9/12/19 WSNAEAC meeting minutes:

- P. 1: Note Joseph Martin, Patricia Whitefoot, and Elese Washines sent prior notice that they would be unable to attend.
- P. 3: Native Student Identification/insert comma after “OSPI Director of Student Information,”.
- P. 3: Recommendations Included/delete “of” between “around” and “identification”.
- P. 5: STI/change “award” to “aware”.
- P. 5: Announcements/change to Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians instead of “tribes”.

Cindy Kelly moved that the 9/12/19 WSNAEAC minutes be approved with requested edits. Sally Brownfield seconded. Motion carried with Patricia Whitefoot and Joseph Martin abstaining.

## **Office of Native Education Director Position**

Gayle Pauley gave an update on hiring the ONE director including review of applications and composition of the review committee which made recommendations for five of the applicants to be interviewed and the composition of the interview committee. Patricia Whitefoot encouraged OSPI to create a ONE position to be housed in Eastern Washington.

## **ClimeTime**

Jennifer LeBret and Polo Hernandez are collaborating with the Pacific Education Institute and OSPI . ClimeTime is a network for climate science learning that helps teachers and their students understand climate science issues affecting Washington communities (<https://www.climetime.org/>). They are meeting with Colville Tribes to introduce the ClimeTime curriculum and will conduct a two day workshop January 24 and 25 and have encouraged the Tribe to choose the environmental issues they would like to address. They also would like to add the Suquamish Tribe and possibly Spokane Tribe to their network.

## **NOAA Environmental Literacy Grant**

One was invited to participate in a grant application to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA) pursuing a project to collaborate with tribal communities through environmental education/sustainability where tribal communities are able to share what they wish, define the work to meet the needs of their youth, and allow them to name what they need non-indigenous scientists and educators to know and do to foster indigenous-centered environmental literacy and and of place.

We were not invited to submit a proposal but are developing other plans to develop a tribal environmental collaboration and possible climate summit.

Elese Washines mentioned that Yakama Nation has a climate change plan developed in 2016.

## **WSNAEAC Website Page**

Laura Lynn has created a WSNAEAC page within the ONE website. Next will be the development of a Tribal Consultation webpage.

## **Title III**

Districts receiving Title III, Part A grants generated by Native students will be required to adhere to the Government to Government tribal consultation policy beginning next school year.

## **Legislation**

Laura Lynn provided an overview of current legislative bills introduced in the state senate and house relating to Native Education. See “2020 Legislation Impacting Native Education” attachment.

**Katie Weaver Randall** ([student.information@k12.wa.us](mailto:student.information@k12.wa.us))

Her office participates in the collection and analysis of data from school districts (powerpoint attached). October 1 of each year is the “count date” and there are 72 categories of race/ethnicity from which to choose. If parents do not identify their children’s ethnicity, then the school district can have an observer identify the students.

Else Washines said she looked at the recommendations made by the race and ethnicity work group and asked how many of the districts have fully implemented the work group’s recommendations. Katy wasn’t sure but said some have but some have not. Else recommended that the ONE director determine if this group is in consultation with tribes. Patricia Whitefoot asked if there are tribal members from this state on the task force.

<https://www.k12.wa.us/about-ospi/workgroups-committees/concluded-workgroups/race-and-ethnicity-student-data-task-force>

<https://capaa.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/RES-D-Task-Force-Update.pdf>

Dorothy Apple asked if Title VI programs could get access to Native student data within districts to help identify students who might be eligible for Title VI services (Title VI Program funds are provided from the US Department of Education directly to school districts).

Patricia Whitefoot shared that one of the tools we have already in place to impact the method Native students are identified is the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, and we should bring this issue to tribal leadership. She will bring this issue to the ATNI pre-meeting on 1/26/20.

Need to have a conversation with CEDARS staff to discuss these issues and how the mis/under-identification of our Native students impacts our communities. She suggested that WSNAEAC have a deep conversation with CEDARS in a follow up meeting and that all documents for review be sent out in advance.

### **Regalia**

WSNAEAC is requesting that a letter affirming the State Superintendent’s support of tribal students wearing traditional regalia and other items of cultural significance during graduation ceremonies and other public events be sent out to all district superintendents.

Michelle Parken shared: Native students planning to wear regalia to graduation include this in the advisement of their High School and Beyond Plan. It should be a topic that is brought up in their plan and incorporated into the template.

Gayle Pauley recommended the Committee develop a letter revising the “Of Notable Interest” statement regarding the wearing of regalia that went out from the Superintendent in April, 2019, and attach to an email stating the Committee’s formal request that this letter be send out to all superintendents twice yearly (beginning of school and beginning of second semester) send it to her ([gayle.pauley@k12.wa.us](mailto:gayle.pauley@k12.wa.us)) by 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 21. Gayle will present to the Deputy Superintendent on the 21<sup>st</sup> and it will move forward to Superintendent Reykdal.

Members of the Committee expressed their agreement with this idea but also recommended providing examples of best practices and positive examples to the Superintendent within their request.

Jeremy recommended this task fall to the STI, K-12 and Higher Education Committee. Michelle Parkin will also provide feedback on this letter.

Please send your letter revision recommendations and examples of best practices to Jeremy ([jeremyro@spokaneschools.org](mailto:jeremyro@spokaneschools.org)) by this Friday, January 17.

**Region 16 Comprehensive Center – Jessica Vavrus**

360/259-0219     [jvavrus@waesd.org](mailto:jvavrus@waesd.org)

Please see Region 16 powerpoint attached. Jessica is asking for:

1. Nominations for the R16CC advisory committee (slides 3&8)
2. Feedback on the R16CC Washington Plan (slide 4)

A decision was made by the State Superintendent to make the following priorities in Washington State's plan:

- Implementation of SB 5433, specifically the implementation of the “Since Time Immemorial” curriculum
- Support the ongoing implementation of:
  - Tribal Consultation
  - Government to Government training
  - Data collection
- Focus our state efforts on student and educator outcomes such as:
  - Increasing American Indian/Alaska Native graduation rates
  - Increasing access to dual credit programs for American Indian/Alaska Native students
  - Increasing the number of American Indian/Alaska Native educators serving in our K-12 system

A timeline is included on slide 5 of the attached powerpoint.

Provide recommendations for the advisory committee to Joan Banker by COB January 17.

Laura will send out documents. Provide feedback to the Executive Committee 1/22; Executive Committee discusses 1/23; and submit to Jessica 1/24.

Laura Lynn will sent a prompt out to WSNAEAC members and send out the ZOOM recording link for this meeting to committee members.

Patricia Whitefoot moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:23 p.m. Elise Washines seconded. Motion carried.