

# **MONTANA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON INDIAN EDUCATION**

## **CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**

### **PREAMBLE**

The Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education was established by the Board of Public Education and the Office of Public Instruction to function in an advisory capacity for the education of American Indian students in Montana.

The Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education shall be a strong voice for collaborative efforts among tribal, state, and federal organizations, institutions, groups, and agencies for the express purpose of promoting high quality and equitable educational opportunities for all American Indian students in Montana. This includes, but is not limited to, culture, language, and Indian Education for All.

### **ARTICLE 1**

#### **Name of Organization**

The name of the organization shall be Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education (MACIE).

### **ARTICLE II**

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of MACIE shall be:

1. Advise the Board of Public Education (BPE) and the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OPI) in matters affecting the education of American Indian students, including accreditation, certification, and teacher training;
2. Promote equal educational opportunities and improve the quality of education provided to American Indian students throughout the State of Montana;
3. Advise, monitor, evaluate, and advocate for the implementation of Indian Education for All as defined in Article X, section 1(2) of the Montana Constitution and MCA 20-1-501 for all educational agencies; and
4. Carry out the goals and responsibilities of MACIE, report to BPE and OPI, and complete an annual progress review.



## **ARTICLE III**

### **Goals**

The Goals of the MACIE are:

#### **1. Communication, Collaboration, and Advocacy**

Share information concerning respective constituents' needs and issues by presenting matters to the MACIE attention for discussion and action. Relay information regarding outcomes and actionable items to constituents.

Encourage collaboration by acting as liaisons between OPI and BPE and member organizations in support of Indian education in Montana. Seek participation of Indian people, tribes, and tribal organizations in the educational process.

Ensure Native representation and participation in all matters pertaining to Indian education.

#### **2. Student Success**

Explore and promote successful data-driven, research-based innovative strategies, resources, and programs that focus on increasing Indian student achievement.

#### **3. Legislative, Fiscal, and Policy Advocacy**

Provide input and recommendations to OPI and BPE regarding fiscal allocations designated for Indian education purposes.

Monitor and advocate legislation, which potentially affects Indian students.

## **BYLAWS OF MONTANA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON INDIAN EDUCATION**

### **ARTICLE 1**

#### **Membership**

BPE and OPI will jointly make appointments to MACIE based on nominations from Indian tribes, Indian organizations, major education organizations in which Indians participate, and schools where American Indian students and adults attend.

NOTE: Participation on MACIE is voluntary and tribes and organizations invited to participate may decline.

Each of the eight Montana tribal councils shall be invited to select one person to represent its tribe. MACIE will seek participation from three urban areas, Great Falls, Billings, and Missoula, one per area.

Other nominations will be sought from organizations or constituencies that have been identified as playing a key role in the education of American Indians in Montana. These are:

- Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)
- School Administrators of Montana (SAM)
- Indian Impact Schools of Montana (IISM) Board
- Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA) Indian School Board Caucus
- Montana Indian Education Association (MIEA) Board
- Class 7 Teachers
- Urban school district Indian Education Departments

### **Voting**

MACIE will be comprised of 17 voting members consisting of:

- 8 representatives from each Montana tribe
- 3 representatives from urban school district Indian Education Departments
- 1 representative from Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)
- 1 representative from School Administrators of Montana (SAM)
- 1 representative from Indian Impact Schools of Montana (IISM)
- 1 representative from Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA) Indian School Board Caucus
- 1 representative from Montana Indian Education Association
- 1 representative from Class 7 teachers

MACIE shall be comprised of six ex-officio (non-voting) members consisting of:

- 1 representative from Office of Public Instruction
- 1 representative from Board of Public Education
- 1 representative from Montana University System
- 1 representative from Bureau of Indian Education Schools
- 1 representative from Tribal Head Starts
- 1 representative from Tribal Colleges

## **ARTICLE 2**

### **Officers**

MACIE officers shall consist of a chairperson, vice-chairperson, and secretary elected by MACIE.

### **ARTICLE 3**

#### **Removal from MACIE**

MACIE members will automatically lose membership with two consecutive unexcused absences from regularly or specially noticed and convened meetings as per Article 10, Section 3. An unexcused absence is one in which a member fails to provide prior notice of absence. In the event of a removal, the MACIE member will be notified and MACIE will request the tribe/organization recommend a new representative.

### **ARTICLE 4**

#### **Amending the Constitution**

An amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws may be adopted at a regular or special meeting by an approval of no less than nine (9) of the MACIE voting members. Advance notice of the agenda containing a proposal to amend shall be distributed to all MACIE members at least 15 days in advance of the meeting.

However, if a member tribe/organization has an official change of name, this may be made without a vote of the members upon notification from the member tribe/organization.

### **ARTICLE 5**

#### **Rules of Order**

Robert's Rules of Order Revised shall be used as a guideline on all procedural questions not otherwise specifically stated in the Constitution and Bylaws of MACIE.

### **ARTICLE 6**

#### **Terms and Duties of Officers**

- Section 1. Chairperson, vice-chairperson, and secretary shall be elected from and by MACIE at the summer meeting and shall serve for two years. Chairperson and vice-chairperson will be elected in separate years, with the secretary being elected with the chairperson.
- Section 2. The chairperson shall preside at all meetings of MACIE. The chairperson shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. The chairperson or designee will represent and present reports for MACIE at all BPE meetings and other meetings that are deemed important by MACIE.
- Section 3. The vice-chairperson shall assume all duties of the chairperson in the chairperson's absence.

Section 4. The secretary or designee shall edit all minutes of MACIE meetings and shall provide proper notice of all meetings scheduled. Regular quarterly meetings shall receive 15-days notice. The secretary shall perform such other duties as prescribed by MACIE.

## **ARTICLE 7**

### **Terms of Members of MACIE**

The membership of MACIE will consist of delegate members nominated by their tribe/organization until replaced, unless said member violates Article 3 of MACIE bylaws. Membership will be reaffirmed every five years.

Vacated positions will be filled by each tribe/organization within a reasonable time period.

## **ARTICLE 8**

### **Duties of Members**

MACIE members will be responsible for carrying out the purposes and goals of the Constitution. Members shall bring information to MACIE from their constituents for consideration and report to their constituents.

OPI ex-officio member shall assist MACIE in its efforts to achieve its goals.

## **ARTICLE 9**

### **Committees and Appointments**

Each member will be assigned to an appropriate working committee(s). Special and/or ad hoc committees may be established as necessary. Standing committees are: Communication, Collaboration, and Advocacy; Student Success; and Legislative, Fiscal, and Policy.

The Executive Committee shall consist of the three officers and three voting members appointed by the Chairperson. The Executive Committee shall:

1. Call Executive meetings as deemed necessary;
2. Have the authority to make emergency decisions on behalf of MACIE; and
3. Report back to MACIE and seek reaffirmation of decisions.

## **ARTICLE 10**

### **Meetings**

Regular MACIE meetings shall be convened quarterly. Special meetings may be called at the discretion of MACIE or the executive committee.

- Section 1. A quorum for all MACIE meetings shall consist of six (6) voting members in attendance.
- Section 2. A quorum for all Executive Committee meetings shall consist of four (4) members.
- Section 3. Regular MACIE members will select an alternate representative to serve in their absence. Said alternates shall enjoy all the rights and privileges for the regular and special MACIE meetings. A response shall be returned prior to the meeting date to indicate whether the delegate, the alternate, or no one will be representing the tribe/organization at the meeting.

Approved with Changes  
May 8, 2019