

Native Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

ASD Education Center
5530 Northern Lights Blvd., Blue Room

Wednesday, March, 26, 2025
5:30-7:30 PM

I. Land Acknowledgement

The land acknowledgement was read by Lakota Holman.

II. Welcome and Introductions

NAC Members, staff & guests introduced themselves.

III. Call to order

Patricia called the meeting to order at 5:38

A. Roll Call

Present

Absent

Staff

Guest

Paul Duny	Melanie Matter-Welsh	Jaime Galvan	Gabrielle Knutson
Kimberly Santagata		Kerri Wood	Vladimir Knutson-Hernandez
Patricia Henry		Alexis Griffiee	Isabell Murry
Jennifer M-C		Jennie Knutson	Sammie Hernandez
Lakota Holman		Melonie-Anne Burtrum	Saddie Santagata
Patrick Hopstad		Ralph Elook	
		Cyndi Reeves	

A quorum was met.

B. Approval of Agenda & Meeting Minutes

Kimberly made a motion to adjust the agenda to allow Jennie Knutson to speak, Patrick seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

IV. Jennie's Update

Jennie gave us an update that the Indigenous Education Director position is now a separate position from the Migrant Education Department. MEP's new director has been hired. Type B certification has been removed as a requirement from the IE Director position. It has allowed for a wider applicant pool that will better support our students. Patrick asked how the type b certification affects the position. Jennie let the board know it does not affect the position, confirming pay range will remain the same. Lakota asked about the funding source. Jennie spoke to the priority of funds coming from

V. NAC Chairs Discussion

a. Inactive Member Status

Two inactive members have resigned, board members agree that the issue has resolved itself.

b. NAC's Public Awareness

Trish talked about the lack of parent awareness of NAC when she toured the art tables at the Indigenous Fashion show in February. Trish suggested being more present at the public activities and supportive of the families. Taking time to attend an event or two would be very beneficial to the board. Jaime recommended attending West High School's Multicultural night coming up. Trish said she would be interested in attending events. Kimberly said she is running a table at an upcoming event. Trish asked if they could get a QR Code printed out. Patrick asked if they should have a sub committee for the updates or "shoot from the hip". Trish mentioned that active involvement is a must if we were to organize a new subcommittee. Alexis offered to help support creating posters and flyers for the NAC. Cyndi talked about having student advisory board help. Patrick asked a follow up to Alexis helping, He wanted to know if we could see something in the next month. Trish expressed the importance of giving parents ownership and ability to share input will help in attracting attendance. Kimberly asked if NAC is still invited to MECAC. Jennifer asked what MECAC stood for "The district's **Multicultural Education Concerns Advisory Committee**"

Trish asked if there could be a competition to draw a new logo for the NAC to help bring in involvement from students. Jennifer suggested having tshirts. Patricia wants to have a logo contest. Sammie liked the idea of a template for a younger audience.

Patrick asked to confirm the four deliverables- Updating website, attendance of events, contest of art and tshirts to wear. Ideas for the logo - talking stick, drum or qaspeq. Paul suggested a moose.

VI. Vote for Parent Seats

A. Seat 1

B. Seat 2

VII. Vote for Vice Chair

Trish nominated Patrick. Patrick accepted. Unanimous vote for Patrick

VIII. Vote for Student Seats

A. Seat 1

Paul nominated Isabell, Isabell accepted

B. Seat 2

Vladimir nominated himself

IX. Program Updates

A. Supervisor

Marti and Jaime went to NIEA Hillweek in D.C getting to meet with Alaska representatives Murkowski, Begich. Got to meet with Murkowski's team last week as a result of going to Hillweek. Barnes and Noble bookfair, enrolled students get up to \$40 worth of books. Family

newsletter to go out by next week. Jaime spoke to the staffing changes from school closure, location changes and expanding schools supported. SEP at Wendler. Upcoming Public Forum, requirement to our Grant. Tribal consultation took place and was a success.

B. Financial Report

Kerri talked about the department requesting budget revisions to the 24/25 school year budget to help use up the funds from all of the open staff positions. \$102,830 moved from Personnel to other budgets.

Jennifer made a motion to approve the budget revision. Patrick seconded the motion. All in favor motion carried.

C. Teacher Expert

The Fashion Show had 100% positive feedback. 40% in the survey had never attended a cultural event before. Alexis got to speak at the Smithsonian Arctic Studies Center Symposium, talking about teaching from a culturally responsive lens. Alexis spoke to being on the AK Studies Design Team. Kimberly asked if a student voice can be heard regarding Alaska Studies. Alexis said she can be a liaison to current students so their voices can be heard. Alaska Studies Educators Summit happening in May.

D. Gui Kima

Just completed a cultural identity project today. Students taught other students during this identity project, this has never been done before. APU Summer Intensives coming up. Registration will open in May 2025. 50 students will be able to attend. 25 male and 25 female students. This year the program will be fully staffed. APU will be taking on all things college and career. Working on credit by choice for students. .5 elective credit for completing an 8 week cohort.

E. Alaska Strong

Diana has been doing her cohort that started at the beginning of March. She has been making beaver mittens with her students. Made fry bread with the families. Mural and Howard Amos did eskimo dance with Ralph's cohort families at the start of his cohort. Going to see "Smoke Signal" as a cohort. Diana works mostly with Elementary families and Ralph works primarily with secondary families. Ralph's next cohort starts April 17th and Diana's starts April 10th

X. General and Public Comments

Jaime thanked everyone for being here tonight. Huge thank you to our new student members.

XI. Adjournment

Kimberly made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Jennifer seconded the motion. Trish called the meeting to an end at 7:22pm