



APS Indian Education Department (IED)
Indian Parent Committee (IPC) Virtual Meeting
January 21, 2021

1. The IPC Vice-Chairperson called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.
3. The Roll Call of the Indian Parent Committee is as follows:
Giselle Montoya, Chairperson/Pueblo of Santa Ana Parent Representative – Present;
Wes Corben, Vice-Chairperson/At-Large Parent Representative – Present;
Alexis Perea, Secretary/At-Large Parent Representative - Present;
Lauren Stewart-Brunelle, At-Large Parent Representative – Present;
Mildred Chiquito, APS Teacher/Counselor Representative – Present;
Suzanna Tenorio, Pueblo of Zuni Parent Representative - Present;
Jacqueline Platero, Tohajiilee Parent Representative – ABSENT (Arrived later in the meeting);
Tehya Barber, High School Student Representative – Present;
Shamenika Nelson, Navajo Parent Representative – Present;
Jered Lee, At-Large Parent Representative – ABSENT.

4. The Vice-Chairperson welcomed all to the meeting.
5. The At-Large Parent Representative (AP) Motions to Approve the Meeting Agenda. The Pueblo of Zuni Parent Representative Seconds the Motion.

Action Taken: A Vote of Eight (8) in Favor, None Opposed.

6. The APS Teacher/Counselor Representative Motions to Approve the Minutes of December 17, 2020. The At-Large Parent Representative (AP) Seconds the Motion.

Action Taken: A Vote of Eight (8) in Favor, None Opposed.

OPEN FORUM

1. Parent Mildred Chiquito expresses her concern with virtual learning. Her daughter, a 10th grader, is having a hard time with virtual

learning, failing one of her AP (Advanced Placement) classes. The parent contacted the school Principal and Counselor by telephone and email, but there is a lack of continued communication from the school. Her daughter is no longer motivated in her schoolwork. Ms. Chiquito requested assistance from the Indian Education Department Counselor to intervene by communicating with the school, not only for her daughter but for other Native American students who may be having the same issues.

The Senior Director of the Indian Education Department responded that she will check into this and asked the parent to further communicate with her in an email.

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

1. The Vice-Chairperson reported the parent committee met in an all-day work session on January 4, 2021, for their annual retreat, receiving training in Robert's Rules of Order, and agreeing the third Thursday of each month would be the dates of the parent meetings for the remainder of the school year. The review of the Title VI Bylaws was also included. Review and finalization of the Title VI and JOM (Johnson O'Malley) Bylaws, and the parent committee's Mission and Vision Statements will continue in work sessions until completed.
2. Tehya Barber, High School Student Representative, reported she participated in a State of New Mexico Indian Affairs Youth Listening Session with other high school students and two college students where the following topics were discussed:
 - Mental health – many students are experiencing depression due to a decrease in or no social connection with other students;
 - Alcoholism and drug abuse – there is an increased use of these substances and has long been a problem with Native American adults as well as youth;
 - Disconnection to culture and traditions, and disconnection between generations – many students do not live on nor visit their reservations, or do not know their traditions and language. This makes it difficult to communicate with their elders when they do go back to the reservation;
 - Young people feeling they have no voice – they feel no one is willing to listen to them because they are viewed as too young.

- The support for higher education is lacking. Preference is given to those students who have family connections to tribal leadership; it is not a fair process;
- Internet connectivity – this remains a big issue for Native American students, especially those living in rural areas;
- Lack of educational materials about Native Americans – these materials are not always available, or they are not current;

The High School Student Representative stated this discussion with other students was very in depth and informative. She hopes discussions like this continue, perhaps in Zoom Classroom arranged by High School Counselors. The Indian Education Department Senior Director also attended this student session and commended the Student Representative on her participation and representation.

3. Dr. Deborah Elder, Executive Director of Office of Innovation, reported on the re-entry plan for students to return to in-person learning. This plan changes frequently depending on the state and county's numbers of Covid-19 cases. Each School Principal has been advised to plan for more students to return than projected, in order to accommodate all students. Preschool students would return first, in small groups, then older grades following in succession. However, it is important for those students who are now Seniors, also be included.
4. The Indian Education Department Instructional Manager reported on the Gradpoint Credit Recovery Program. The Indian Education Department's focus is on high school students, college and career readiness, and credit recovery. Information on the Gradpoint Program is on the IED website, or parents can also contact the Instructional Manager. A new teacher has been hired for the JAG (Jobs for America's Graduates) Program at Cibola High School.
5. The Senior Director reported on a change in the student transfer process. Native American students living on tribal lands within a 50-mile radius can now apply for transfers to the school of their choice. Students living in the Pueblos of Acoma, Cochiti, Isleta, Jemez, Laguna, San Felipe, Sandia, Santa Ana, Santo Domingo, Zia, and the community of Tohajiilee, can now use their home addresses when applying for transfers. The Indian Education Department will be applying for a new grant to fund Native American languages. There are three Native Language Teachers, a Zuni Language Teacher and two Navajo Language Teachers who are

currently funded under a grant that will be expiring. This new grant is funded under NAM (Native American and Alaska Native Children in School Programs) from the US Department of Education.

The Indian Education Department has been meeting with administrators of eCademy regarding an afterschool program for the Navajo and Zuni Languages. There are approximately 25 Zuni students and 140 Navajo students enrolled in eCademy K-8.

The Indian Education Department has also been meeting with the District Attendance Department personnel for a potential pilot program for Native American students enrolled at Del Norte High School, Cleveland and McKinley Middle Schools, and Governor Bent and Hodgin Elementary Schools, to improve attendance.

6. The Senior Director reviewed the Title VI budget.

SPECIAL REPORTS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS (Approval Items)

None

NEXT MEETING DATE & ADJOURNMENT

The Tohajiilee Parent Representative Motions to Adjourn the meeting. The APS Teacher/Counselor Representative Seconds the Motion.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:08

IPC Chairperson/Pueblo of Santa Ana Parent Representative,
Giselle Montoya _____ X _____ Date 2/18/21

IPC Vice-Chairperson/At-Large Parent Representative
Wes Corben _____ X _____ Date 2/18/21

IPC Secretary/At-Large Parent Representative,
Alexis Perea _____ X _____ Date 2/18/21

IPC APS Teacher/Counselor Representative,
Mildred Chiquito _____ X _____ Date 2/18/21

IPC At-Large Parent Representative,
Laurent Stewart-Brunelle _____ X _____ Date 2/18/21

IPC At-Large Parent Representative,
Jered Lee _____ Date _____

IPC Pueblo of Zuni Parent Representative,
Suzanna Tenorio _____ X _____ Date 2/18/21

IPC Tohajiilee Parent Representative,
Jacqueline Platero _____ Date _____

IPC Navajo Parent Representative,
Shamenika Nelson _____ X _____ Date 2/18/21

IPC High School Student Representative,
Tehya Barber _____ X _____ Date 2/18/21