

Testimony

Tribal and State Relations Committee

Tuesday, August 2, 2016

By: Lucy Fredericks, Director of Indian/Multicultural Education

ND Department of Public Instruction

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Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Good Afternoon, My name is Lucy Fredericks and I am the Director of Indian/Multicultural Education for the ND Department of Public Instruction. I am here today to provide you with information on the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015 which includes several provisions that target the educational needs of Native American students.

The new federal education law known as ESSA doesn't go into effect until July 1, 2017. Over the next year, the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) will be creating federal guidance on the implementation of ESSA. Each state department must create a comprehensive state plan that outlines how they will implement the law. North Dakota will submit their state plan in March, 2017.

The ND state ESSA Planning committee convened for the first time on May 17th and also met on July 25th, the next meeting is scheduled for August 30th. The ND plan is focused around continuous improvement, Accountability, Teacher/leader Effectiveness, Standards & Assessment (EL) and School Improvement. All ESSA related information can be accessed on the NDDPI website.

ESSA requires states to engage in Meaningful consultation with Tribes in the development of the states plan to meet the needs of Native students. ESSA promotes tribal self-determination in the education of Native students by authorizing coordination and collaboration of tribal stakeholders with state education agencies (SEAs) to meet the unique culturally-related academic needs of our NA students.

The NDDPI and the NDIAC will be sending out a joint memo invite to attend the first ND ESSA Tribal Consultation Meeting to be held Friday October 21, 2016 from 1-4pm in the Brynhild Haugland room here at the state capitol (Invite Memo Handout).

Kirsten Baesler
State Superintendent

Robert J. Christman
Deputy Superintendent



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TO: North Dakota ESSA Tribal Consultation Participants/Stakeholders

FROM: Kirsten Baesler, State Superintendent
Scott Davis, Director of North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission

DATE: August 22, 2016

SUBJECT: North Dakota ESSA Tribal Consultation Meeting

The North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI) and the North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission (NDIAC) would like to invite you to participate in the North Dakota Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Tribal Consultation Meeting. We would like to engage in meaningful consultation with tribes and other tribal education agencies in the development of our North Dakota state plan to meet the education needs of Native American students.

Under ESSA, each state educational agency must create a consolidated state plan to outline how the state intends to implement the new law. The NDDPI will submit its state ESSA plan to the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) in March 2017. All ESSA related information can be accessed at www.nd.gov/dpi/SchoolStaff/FTP/ESSA/.

The North Dakota ESSA Tribal Consultation Meeting will be held on Friday, October 21, 2016. We will meet at the State Capitol in the Brynhild Haugland Room from 1:00pm to 4:00pm CT (Ground Floor, West Entrance). An agenda will follow.

If you have any questions prior to our meeting, please contact Lucy Fredericks, Director of Indian/Multicultural Education at lkfredericks@nd.gov or (701) 328-1718. We look forward to seeing you at this very important meeting on October 21, 2016!