

Nevada Department of Education Indian Education Updates
Prepared for the Nevada Indian Commission Board Meeting, February 2017

Here is an overview of meeting and events that the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) Education Programs Professional (EPP) for Indian Education either provides, or is affiliated with from November 2016 – February 2017.

10th Annual American Indian/Alaska Native Education Summit

This year we will celebrate our 10th Annual AI/AN Ed. Summit on March 20-21, 2017, at the University of Nevada, Reno. The theme this year is, *From Accountability to Native Innovation: Celebrating a decade of work, and venturing toward a bright future*, to acknowledge the work that has been done over the past ten years. In addition, the content will address the new Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

With the collaboration between the University of Nevada, Reno, Washoe County School District and the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony we are able to offer 150 registrations to students in grades 8th-12th grade.

State Education Agencies Indian Education Directors Meetings

The NDE and the WCC at WestEd work closely on several tasks, one being the Indian Education Advisory Board, which is made up of regional group State Education Agency (SEA) directors, Indian education leaders, and advocates from Nevada, Arizona and Utah. The purpose of the Board is to provide input and advisement to the WCC on Indian Education work in the region, to provide feedback to the Center as technical assistance provider for Indian Education to the SEAs served, and to prioritize the needs, both regionally and state specific, that inform Center work.

The state Indian Education directors have been meeting regularly, and quarterly with the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) Indian Education Directors meetings. The collaboration with the other state directors has been helpful in gathering information toward the ESSA and other state are each working to provide effective consultation with tribes.

Please see the final draft of the National Indian Education Association's *Building Relationships with Tribes: A Native Process for ESSA Consultation*. This document is being shared with the school districts in Nevada. The NDE, Indian Education has adapted other materials from other states to assist the districts and tribes.

Below is a table that will be helpful. The content in the table is taken from the sections of ESSA, which address Consultation

| | |
|---|--|
| ESSA Section 111(a) | |
| Important information to know about ESSA | What is required by states under ESSA? |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ESSA Consultation requirements didn't exist under NCLB. • Section 111(a) requires that "representatives of Indian tribes in the state" be included in the formation of state plans. • Under ESSA, states must engage in "timely and meaningful" stakeholder consultation. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public notice of Initial State Plan • 30 day period for comments. • Specific assurances for high school students and English Language • Requirement of engagement when significant engagement when significant amendments are made to the state plan. |
| ESSA Section 8538 | |
| <p>What are the requirements of school districts?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School districts are required to consult with Indian tribes or tribal organizations before submitting a plan for a program covered by ESSA. • Districts that receive more than \$40,000 for Title VI or have over 50% AI student enrollment must hold tribal consultation. | |

(Building Relationships with Tribes, pg. 9)

Connecting Cultures: Conversations among Leaders of American Indian Student Populations, January 24, 2017

The Nevada Department of Education's Indian Education, English Learners and Turnaround programs collaborated to develop a day of professional development, sharing resources, and brainstorming for the leaders of the schools with large AI student populations. The school leaders that were invited were: Owyhee Combined School, McDermitt Combined School, Natchez Elementary School, Schurz Elementary School, and Mendive Middle School (feeder school for Natchez Elementary School). We also included the Pyramid Lake High School principal.

The leaders received resources to assist in the following:

- Gain a better understanding of the culture of the Indian Community
- Share what is currently working well, and what challenges are presented in schools
- Develop student engagement strategies
- Develop parent/community engagement strategies
- Improve College & Career Readiness expectations
- Understand how to hold a tribal consultation between school personnel and tribal leaders (ESSA Requirement)

This was a great first meeting with school leaders to start networking. It was the first time all school leaders had come together to receive professional development.

The New Nevada Plan, needs to be reviewed by March 1

On January 19, the Nevada Department of Education released and shared the draft ESSA plan (The New Nevada Plan) with the State Board and opened the plan for public comment.

The following email was sent to the Indian Education Advisory Committee listserv, and to a few others requesting they respond to the *New Nevada Plan*. The following email correspondence was sent from the Dr. Steve Canavero, Superintendent for Public Instruction.

The plan offers an honest assessment of the state of Nevada education. It recognizes that great work is happening in our state but that we have a long way to go to provide all of our students with the type of high quality education they need to be college and career ready. The plan also spotlights areas where we are seeing dramatic improvement which demonstrate that, if we work together, we can make Nevada the fastest improving state in the nation.

We still have several steps before submitting the plan to US ED.

First, the draft plan will be open for public comment until March 1. The plan is now posted on our website with the rest of the ESSA Advisory Group materials. There is also a link to a survey for public comment on the same website. http://www.doe.nv.gov/Boards_Commissions_Councils/ESSA_Adv_Group/ESSA_Advisory_Group

Second, the Department will be presenting the plan to different stakeholder groups across the state and asking for feedback. If you know of an existing engagement that the Department could piggy-back an ESSA plan presentation to please let us know.

Third, public comment will be reviewed and considered for the final draft which will be submitted to US ED on April 3, 2017.

Together, if we follow the course outlined in the draft ESSA plan, we will become the fastest improving state in the nation.

Please share this with your contacts as well as any Committee or Councils you may support. Thank you for your continued efforts on behalf of all Nevada students.

[http://www.doe.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/ndedoenvgov/content/Boards_Commissions_Councils/ESSA_Adv_Group/2017/TuesdayNightDraftF%20\(2\).pdf](http://www.doe.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/ndedoenvgov/content/Boards_Commissions_Councils/ESSA_Adv_Group/2017/TuesdayNightDraftF%20(2).pdf)

In addition to *The New Nevada Plan*, the Nevada Department of Education is also submitting the *Nevada Department of Education Consolidated State Plan Under the*

Every Student Succeeds Act. The plan is on the Nevada Department of Education's website.

Section 8302 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act the Secretary to establish procedures and criteria under which, after consultation with the Governor, a State educational agency (SEA) may submit a consolidated State plan designed to simplify the application requirements and reduce burden for SEAs. The Secretary must establish, for each covered program under section 8302 of the ESEA, and additional programs designated by the Secretary, the descriptions, information, assurances, and other material required to be included in a consolidated State plan.

http://www.doe.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/ndedoenvgov/content/Boards_Commissions_Councils/ESSA_Adv_Group/essa-consolidated-Nevada-plan%2002.05.17.pdf

It is very important that the tribal communities reply to the plans. The survey will assist the Department to improve upon the draft of the *New Nevada Plan*:
http://www.doe.nv.gov/Boards_Commissions_Councils/ESSA_Adv_Group/survey/