

Western Washington Native American Education Consortium (WWNAEC) Meeting

September 26, 2024
North Thurston Public Schools
305 College Street NE Lacey, WA 98516

Call to Order at 9:16 am by Rachael Barger

Blessing and Welcome by Jerad Koepp

Introductions

Minutes: Motion to approve by Martha Sherman. Second by Sandra Gordon. Minutes approved.

Committee Board Reports:

Treasurer Report-Donna Shane, NWIC, stepped in for Jenny Serpa to review the consortium's current financial status. Martha Sherman moved to approve the budget, and Amy Hales seconded. Motion carried.

Merit Awards-Merit Award will be available and live on the WWNAEC website in February 2025, general announcement at the Educators conference and email to membership. Rachael gave an overview of the scholarship and reported that we had three recipients last year.

New Business:

- WWNAEC By-Laws – Rachael would like members to review and send revision suggestions back to her as soon as possible.
- Reviewed the tabs available on the WWNAEC webpage. Shout out to Matthew Haver for managing the page so well.
- Rachael also reviewed the membership options and referred to its location on the WWNAEC website.
- Martha Sherman's retirement party is on November 9, 2024, from 12-4 pm.
- Dr. Laura Lynn presented a legislative update, specifically regarding the Centennial Accord, and there will be a request to the WA legislature to match federal funding with state funding for Title III. **Federal and WA state Title III definitions don't match.**
- Title III: Jerad Koepp suggested inviting the Title III/OSPI representative to inform and discuss because we didn't have enough time in this meeting. Should have sharing or focus activities outside of WWNAEC meetings. The last activity we had planned should be the first on the agenda for the next meeting.
- Kayla Guyett volunteered to be on the agenda for November.
- WSNAC Sarah-Marie Ortiz, Jerad K and [REDACTED] are WSNAC representatives. October meeting offers an open forum. It would be great if parents and students could be present.
- It's also more powerful if parents and students provide testimony to the state legislature.
- Discussed APR Tips and Tricks. Rachael creates an Excel sheet to track objectives, and activities/services connected to them.
- Sarah-Marie wonders what OIE does with the APR data.

Guest Presentations:

Developmental Disabilities Administration - Rose Spidell, new Educational Liaison Program Manager, informed that Lisa Pemberton is now the DDA Tribal Liaison.

- Big change in October DDA will stop using IQ as a qualifier.
- Students who hadn't qualified prior are welcome to reapply.
- Schools identify students @ 14 years old and no later than 16, provide a list to DDA, and DVR, and then those agencies make connections with appropriate resources.
- Inclusionary Practices Project – Black IEP students and students with developmental disabilities are excluded from this opportunity.
- Rose & Lisa are working to provide more outreach to Native families and schools.
- Sarah-Marie- tapping into family leaders is invaluable, tap into them.
- Jerad – handouts and brochures would be helpful.

Hear Me WA – responds to crises and a wide range of concerns. Youth can connect with counselors from the Sandy Hook Promise cadre, 24/7/365. Calls are triaged: Life Safety-Urgent-Critical.

- Tribal youth can connect to tribal agencies or talk to Native strong.
- The program will launch later in the Fall of 2024 with w/youth outreach, youth surveys, and a youth advisory group.
- It's free and can be accessed at www.atg.wa.gov/HearMeWA

OSPI/ONE – Henry Strom

- Tribal language grantee updates.
- Kayla Guyett created the language map.
- lulilaš training – ONE is working to center the tribes, honoring their sovereignty, and how they want their stories told.
- Will create space for tribes and district leaders to do the work.
- Literacy technical assistance.
- Literacy workgroup – October 16
- Data review – 9 districts have a high number of Native students. One outcome is that Henry will contact the districts and offer tech assistance and resources.
- Max – December is the last presentation and the deadline is in January for recertification paperwork.

OSPI/ONE – Max Alex

- Updated the number and locations of 5hr G2G and 3hr Strengthening Tribal Consultation number and locations. A-synch is closed for now – only administrators who need to complete recertification can access it.
- 3 trainings will take place next June (@AWSP?), and then one eastside, and one westside training.

- CTE G2G training: Shandy Abrahamson developed a curriculum that's specific to tribal economy and how to partner with tribes. WACTA training on October 18 at Ilani Resort.
- Governor Inslee asked about STI implementation. OPSI working on the evaluation piece to see who is implementing it.
- Tribal Education Summit – what could sovereignty look like in tribal consultation with school districts, i.e., ONE will train tribes about the SD side of the equation.
- Speakers for testimony – parents & students talk about the importance of STI
- Best channel to get into the Legislative work sessions is to ask your school district about student participation, and parent involvement is key.
- Virtual student participation might be possible. Look for Connect GPT or Zoom options.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm - Rachael Barger