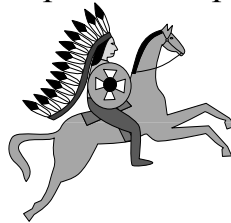


Milestones for Indian Education and MIEA in Montana....

It is important to remember our past if we want to know who we are and it is important to remember the events and people who have played a part in this process.



Important Events – Impacting Montana Indian Education

- 1775 – Continental Congress approves \$500.00 to educate Indians at Dartmouth College.
- 1778 – First Treaty Signed
- 1802 – Congress provides \$15,000 annually to “provide civilization among the aborigines.”
- 1819 – Early Civilization Fund – to give to Christian missionaries to civilize and christianize Indians.
- 1870’s – US Government educates Indians in Boarding Schools (Carlisle est. in 1879, Chemawa opens 1880, Haskell 1882)
- 1889 – Montana becomes a State
- 1921 – Snyder Act - provides money to BIA for benefit, care and assistance of Indians (including education)
- 1924 – Indians become US Citizens
- 1928 – Meriam Report – this report altered the federal approach to Indian Education
- 1934 – JOM Act – provides funds to states to educate Indian children in Public Schools. Act was primary means of transferring the federal responsibility of education of Indians to states and another government plan for “civilization.” (It was thought that in public schools daily contact with white children would facilitate their civilization and though them contribute to the enlightenment of adult Indian parents)
- 1950 – Impact Aid Act (PL 81-874) – provides funds to public schools in lieu of taxes for trust land in their districts.
- 1958 – schools on reservations are able to receive funding under Impact (in lieu of taxes)
- 1952 – Relocation to the Cities and Termination Era
- 1953 – House Concurrent Resolution 108 – Termination Era
- 1964 – Civil Rights Act
- 1965 – ESEA – Title I Programs –provides funds to schools with high concentrations of low income children.
- 1968 – Navajo Community College – 1st Tribal College.
- 1969 – Indian Education – “A National Tragedy a National Challenge” (Senator Robert Kennedy probe into Indian Education)
- 1970 - NIEA Organizes in Minneapolis
- 1970 – President Nixon’s announces an era of Indian control over education.
- 1971 – Montana’s Tribal Colleges begin in 1975 – AIHEC Created
- 1971 – “An Even Chance” – Report on misuse of JOM Funds
- 1972 – PL 92-318 Indian Education Act - Part A, B, C, and D funding – NACIE created.
- 1975 – Indian Self Determination and Education Assistance Act (allows for tribal contracting of education programs)
- 1975 - Indian Policy Review Commission
- 1978 – PL 95-561 (education amendments of 1978) – Allows for Indian parents and tribes to be involved in Impact Aid with Public Schools.
- 1978 – Tribally Controlled Community College Assistance Act
- 1988 – PL 100-297 – calls for White House Conference on Indian Education which is held in 1992 with 113 recommendations completed.
- 1990 – Indian Nations at Risk Task Force
- 1994 – Goals 2000 (Clinton)
- 2005 – Tribal Education Directors Association Formed



Milestones in Montana Indian Education

- 1971 – Indian Fee Waiver enacted (MCA -75-8705)
- 1972 - Montana's Constitution Approved – Article X, 1 (2) (*Delegate Dorothy Eck introduces amendment and with amendment by Harbaugh –passes by vote 83 to 1*)
- 1973 – HB 343 - Indian Studies Law Passes requiring teachers to take training in American Indian Studies.
- 1973 – SJ 17 – Encouraging Public schools to include in their curricula Indian history, culture and contemporary affairs and encouraged teacher training programs to prepare teachers to educate Indian students.
- 1973 – HB 578 – Montana Commission on Post-Secondary Education – recommendations developed on Indian Education.
- 1974-75 - HJ 60 – Instructed the BPE and BOR to devise a Master Plan for improving public school teacher' knowledge of Native American Culture. HJ 60 called for all teachers, regardless of where they taught to receive Indian studies training within 10 years.
- HB 746 – authorizes money for this study and also provides funding for Indian studies faculty at UM, MSU and EMC.
- 1974-76 – Early MIEA organization
- 1975 – HJ 57 – designates the 4th Friday in September as Native American Day
- 1975 – HJ 28 – urges the Board of Regents to find a way to solve some of problems of Indian Education through more relevant education programs and to fully implement the mandate of Montana's constitution, Article X.
- 1978 – MUS Policy 303.5 – Each unit of university system required to offer a course for formal study on Indians.
- 1979 – HB 219 – amended HB 343 Indian Studies Law to make it “permissive rather than mandatory” for school districts.
- 1979-1981 –MIEA Reorganization (1st Constitution approved 1981)
- 1981 – Indian Nation's At Risk
- 1984 – Policy Statement on American Indian Education issued by Board of Public Education.
- 1984 – Position Paper on Commitment to Indian Education in Montana – Nancy Keenan, Supt. Of Public Instruction
- 1984 – Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education created by Montana Board of Public Education to advise the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Public Instruction on matters involving Indian students.
- 1989 – School Funding Lawsuit Helena Elementary School District NO. 1 v State - *The Montana Supreme Court determined that Article X, 1 (2) “establishes a special burden in Montana for the education of American Indian children which must be addressed as a part of the school funding issues.”*
- 1989 – TRACKS Project begins in Montana University System
- 1989 – Project Excellence develops Montana School Accreditation Standards and Procedures Manual and includes language that directs schools to “nurture an understanding of the values and contributions of Montana's Native Americans and the unique needs and abilities of Native American students and other minority groups.”
- 1990 - Statewide Forum on Indian Education held by MACIE and result was “State Plan for Indian Education”
- 1990 – Board of Public Education Resolution passed reaffirming support of Article X, 1 (2), intent to accomplish its policy statement on Indian Education, to work with MACIE, to create an action plan for Indian Ed, to strengthen its Teacher Education Program standards to insure Montana Educators are sensitive to culturally different students, explore the designation of one PR day for Indian/multicultural education/human relations training, to explore accreditation rules for increased parental involvement.
- 1990 – Opening of Pipeline Conference on Higher Education and Native American Studies
- 1990 – University System Policy on Minority Achievement (“Miscellaneous No. 1902”)
- 1990 – Nancy Keenan issues position paper on Commitment to American Indian Education in Montana
- 1991 – Rep. Gervais introduces legislation appropriating money to OHCE for Office of American Indian/Minority Achievement.
- 1991 – March, Governor, State BOE, BOR, OPI, OCHE issue a statement re-affirming their constitutional commitment to equality of educational opportunity to each person of the state and to preserving through educational goals the cultural integrity of American Indians. Express commitment to work closely with tribal colleges, to increase graduation rates, support minority recruitment into teacher education and University System faculties, and State Plan for American Indian Education.”
- 1992-93 – OPI Reports that Indian students are largest minority group in Montana's schools.
- 1994 – Top five (5) entities who oversee education re-affirmed their “constitutional commitment to equality of education to each person in the state” - “Pledged to support the infusion of gender and multicultural equity awareness and techniques throughout Montana's teacher education programs.”
- 1995 – Class 7 American Indian Language and Culture Specialist Certification recommended by CSPAC is approved by BPE. (only 1.9% of Montana's K-12 teachers and 1.7% of school administrators are Indian.
- 1995 – HJ 3 – urges the recognition of BOR and BPE of American Sign language as a separate and complete language and to authorize the teaching of American Indian sign language as part of school and university curriculum.
- 1995 – October – Montana Forum for Effective Education of American Indian Students hosted by OPI, MACIE, and MIEA.

Milestones in Montana Indian Education continued..

- 1996 – December-“To Promote a Better Understanding: The 1995-96 Activities of the Committee on Indian Affairs” (per SJ No. 11) to assess the degree to which public schools are in compliance with Article X, 1 (2), the intent of the constitutional delegates, the role of American Indian studies in the MUS, level of knowledge of the general public about the historical and contemporary American Indian issues.
- 1997 - State Legislature passes the 4th Friday of September as American Indian Heritage Day
- 1998 – October, MIEA, MACIE, OPI, American Indian Higher Education with OCHE, and Coordinator of Indian Affairs host Indian Education Summit and Legislative Forum, Helena, MT.
- 1999 - Montana Legislature passes HB 528 – Indian Education for All (this legislation was drafted after the SJ 11 study was completed in 1996 and was first introduced to the Indian Affairs Committee in 1998 by Norma Bixby, but they did not go forward with it as a committee bill)
- 1999 – September 10-11 - 1st Statewide Parent Forum hosted at SKC by OPI, MIEA completes Parent Survey
- 2000 – Indian Education for All Committee of the Board of Education created by Governor Racicot for implementing HB 528.
- 2001 - January 24, Board of Education’s Indian Education for All holds hearing (24 individuals testify) – recommendations made to State educational agencies.
- 2001 - National Indian Education Association hosted by MIEA at Billings, MT
- 2001 – Linda McCulloch signs policy statement to recognize, honor and facilitate the implementation of Indian Education for All and 20-1-501.
- 2001 – Equal Educational Opportunity for Native American Students in Montana’s Public Schools, Montana Advisory Committee to the US Commission on Civil Rights
- 2001, 2003 – Montana Legislature Sessions - attempts to secure state funding Indian Education for All in the State Legislature fail.
- 2002 – November, MIEA hosts statewide Public Hearing on American Indian High School Dropouts
- 2003 – January – OPI develops Essential Understandings Regarding Montana Indians
- 2003 – St. Labre, St. Charles, St. Xavier School and Browning School students raise money to help implement Indian Ed for All and present over \$7,000 to Montana’s Governor.
- 2003 – MIEA Hosts Statewide Parent Forum in Billings
- 2003 – MIEA hosts Legal Forum on Indian Education Issues
- 2004 – November – INDIAN EDUCATION FOR ALL GOES TO COURT - MIEA joins the MQEC School Lawsuit and files an Amicus Brief on failure to fund Indian Education for All and Indian Student Achievement
- 2004 – HJ 8 Study on American Indian Dropout Rate in Montana completed by State Legislature State-Tribal Affairs Committee
- 2004 – April, District Court (Judge Sherlock) –rules in favor of MIEA Amicus Brief *“This court hereby rules that the current state funding system violates Article X, 1 (2) of the Montana Constitution in that the State has failed to recognize the distinct and unique cultural heritage of American Indians and has shown no commitment in its educational goals to the preservation of their cultural identity.”*
- 2004 – School Renewal Commission (organized under HB 736) includes as part of recommendations for Indian Education for All and to eliminate the disparity in educational achievement for Indian students in Montana.
- 2004 – October, OPI holds Indian Education Summit – A Call to Action
- 2004 – December, MIEA presents \$23.0 million budget request to Governor’s Office for implementing Indian Education for All.
- 2005 – April, MIEA Completes Parent Survey at MIEA Conference
- 2005 - Nov 9, Montana Supreme Court unanimous decision affirms Sherlock Decision. *The District Court concluded that the State has failed to recognize the distinct and unique cultural heritage of American Indians and that it has shown no commitment in its educational goals to the preservation of Indian cultural identity, as demanded by Article X, Section 1 (2). It relied on our opinion in Helena Elementary, when we held that the “provision establishes a special burden in Montana for the education of American Indian children which must be addressed as part of the school funding issues.”...Therefore, we merely recognize that the findings and the conclusions of the District Court regarding Article X, Section 1 (2) of the Montana Constitution stand unchallenged.*
- 2005 – SB 152 Definition of Quality Education passes – includes Indian Education for All, needs of Indian students, LEP student
- HB 692 – Definition of Quality Education for Indian Education for All – fails (amended into SB 152)
- HB 791 – Funding for Indian Education for All \$6.1 million (to add to already approved \$2.0 m and \$1.4 m)– fails
- Request for \$250,000 for Montana university System for Indian Education for All requested – fails.
- Indian Education for All Working Group, Education Appropriations Subcommittee recommends \$7.75 million budget -\$1.4 is Approved.
- 2005 State Legislature -provided \$3.4 million for Indian Education for All and \$2.0 million to Tribal Colleges for writing their Tribal Histories and equipment needs.
- 2005 – SB 525 - School Quality Committee organized to develop school funding formula based
- Note: MIEA/Impact Aid Schools/Montana Indian School Board Caucus join to advocate for Indian Ed. For All and Closing the Achievement Gap.
- 2005 - December, MIEA hosts School Funding Forum to prepare recommendations.
- 2005 - Special Session provides \$10.0 million for Indian Education for All to go to Montana schools (\$3.0 million on-going and \$7.0 million one-time-only)
- 2005 – MEA/MFT Conference in Missoula – over 50 workshops on Indian Education for All
- 2006 – February, MIEA holds Montana Tribal Government Curriculum Summit
- 2006 – MIEA completes Handbook for Parents of Indian students

2006 – MIEA is 25 year's Old



Indian people who have served Montana Montana Board of Public Education and Board of Regents

Montana Board of Public Education

Earl Barlow
Thomas Thompson 1977-1994
Joyce Silverthorne 1994-2004
Cal Gilbert 2004-2011

Montana Board of Regents

Colleen Conroy
Deborath Wetsit



MIEA Thanks the Indian Education Specialists in the Office of Public Instruction for 37 years of service: 1969 – 2006

1969: Earl Barlow, ESEA Title Program Specialist
1970: Earl Barlow, Indian Education Supervisor; Dwight Billedeaux, Assistant; Ella Ortner, Curriculum Consultant
1971-72: Earl Barlow, Indian Education Supervisor; Dorrance K. Steele, Assistant
1973: Indian Education Supervisor: Bob Parsley; Assistant: vacant
1974-1976: Indian Education Supervisor: Bob Parsley; Assistant: Bill Yellowtail
1977-1978: Cultural Awareness Supervisor: Carmen Taylor; Equal Learning Opportunity Manager: Dan Decker; Indian Education Manager: Bob Parsley
1979-1980: Indian Education Manager; Bob Parsley
1981-1982: Indian Education Specialist: Bob Parsley
1983-86: Indian Education Specialist: Bob Parsley
1987-1988: Special Populations Specialist: Bob Parsley
1989-1990: Indian Education Specialist: Bob Parsley; Indian Education Accounting: Sylvia Stevens; Indian school Funding 874: Lynda Brannon
1991: Indian Education Specialist: Bob Parsley; Indian School Funding PL 874: Lynda Brannon, Denise Ferestad
1992 Indian Education Specialist: Bob Parsley; Indian School funding PL 874: Denise Ferestad, Specialist; Joan Anderson, Director
1993-1994 Indian Education Specialist: Bob Parsley; Indian School funding PL 81-874: Denise Nielson Specialist; Joan Anderson, Director
1995: Indian Education Specialist: Bob Parsley
1996-1997: Vacant
1998-1999: Indian Education Specialist: Denise Juneau
2000: Indian Education Specialist: Denise Juneau to July 28, 2001; Title 1 Specialist: Mike Jetty (1999)
2001: Vacant (Jetty left 2001)
2002-2003: Indian Education Specialist: Lori Falcon (August 2002 - January 8, 2005)
Everall Fox hired 6/2002-Gear Up
2004: Indian Education Specialist: Everall Fox; Jetty hired August 2004 as Dropout Coordinator
2005: Indian Education Director: Everall Fox August 2005-October 2005; Gear-up: G. Bruce Meyers January-August 2005; Indian Education Specialist: Mike Jetty; Grants Manager: Martha Many Grey Horses
2006: Current: Indian Education Director: Denise Juneau January 2006- present; Indian Education Assistant Division Administrator and Bilingual Education Program: Lynn Hinch; Indian Education Specialist/Curriculum and Material Development: Mike Jetty; Indian Education Specialist/Indian Student Achievement: Mandy Smoker Broadus; Indian Education for All Implementation Specialist (formerly grants manager): Vacant; American Indian Dropout Prevention Specialist: Amy Sings In The Timber; Administrative Assistant: Joan Franke

MIEA Board of Directors – 25 Years

1974-1975?

Joe McDonald, Pres
Mary Kendall

1980-81

Bob Parsley, Chairperson
Mary Frenchman, Sec-Treas

1983-1984?

Stan Juneau

1984-1985?

Karen Fenton, Pres.
Larry LaCounte

1985-1986?

Karen Fenton, Pres.

1986-1987?

1987-1988?

1988-1989?

1989-1990 Board

Loren Bum Stiffarm, President
Stan Juneau, Vice President
Peggy Nagel, Sec/Treas.
James Higgins
Ken Weatherwax
Jennifer LaFromboise
Ivan Small
Nate St. Pierre
Linda Pease
Rhonda Lankford

1990-91 Board

Loren Bum Stiffarm, President
Ivan Small, Vice President
Peggy Nagel, Sec/Treas.
Stan Juneau
Margie Perez
Bill LaForge
Gerry Raining Bird
Majel Bird
RoAnne Little Light
Daisy Galbreath

1991-1992 Board

Jerry Raining Bird, President
Lyle McDonald
Mike Sangrey
Stan Juneau
Robert Fox

1992-1993 Board

Robert Fox, President
Dona Buckles
Majel Bird
Leo Brockie
Michael Sangrey
Desiree Lambert
Andrea Brockie
Vernelle Butch Chase
Frances Bull Shoe
Rusty Tatsey

1993-1994 Board

Theodora Weatherwax, Pres.
Jackie Black Bird, Vice Pres
Vicki Hough, Sec/Treas.
Norma Bixby
Robert Fox
Barney Doney
Bertha Bert Other Bull
Minerva Allen
Donna Buckles
Robert J. Swan

1994-1995 Board

Theodora Weatherwax, Pres.
Stan Juneau, Vice President
Dr. Deborah Wetsit
Edward Parisian
Bernard Lambert
Darryl Crasco
Desiree Lambert
Janice Brockie
Paula Hawley
Ramona Croff

1995-1996 Board

Sandra Murie, President
Minerva Allen, Vice Pres
Stan Juneau, Sec/Treas
Violet Crasco
Rhonda Shumway
Theodora Weather Wax
Deborah Wetsit
Dana Croff
Ed Parisian

1996-1997 Board

Theodora Weatherwax, Chair
Jackie Blackbird, Vice Chair
Vicky Hough, Sec/Treas
Norma Bixby
Lance Matthews
Donna Buckles-Whitmer
Robert Fox
Minerva Allen
Bertha Other Bull
Robert Swan
Loren Bum Stiffarm, Exec.
Dir.

1997-1998

Theodora Weatherwax, Chair
Dr. Robert Swan, Vice Chair
Darcy Skunkcap, Sec/Treas.
Alan Azure
Robyn Baker
Heather Lefthand-Ryan
Bertha Bert Other Bull
Erica Johnson
Dona Buckles-Whitmer
Dr. Al Spang
Loren Bum Stiffarm, Exec. Dir

1998-1999 Board

Dr. Robert Swan, Pres.
Theodora Weatherwax, Pres
Dr. Al Spang, Vice Pres.
Alan Azure, Sec./Treas.
Daryl Wright
Corey Sangrey (College)
Melissa Horn (resigned)
Lacretia Weatherwax
Heather Lefthand-Ryan
Dona Buckles-Whitmer
Carol Juneau
Loren Bum Stiffarm, Exec.
Dir.

1999-2000 Board

Carol Juneau, Chair
Norma Bixby, Vice Chair
Theodora
Weatherwax, Sec/Trea
Robert DesRosier
Daryl Wright
Barbara Perry
Lacretia Weatherwax
Canden Wilke
Dr. Alonzo Spang
Ellen Swaney (Rep to Board)
Cyril Not Afraid (Rep to Board)

2000-2001 Board

Carol Juneau, Chair
Lyle Heavy Runner (Parent)
Vice Chair
Norma Bixby, Sec.
Mike Jetty (Urban), Treas.
Daryl Wright
Robert DesRosier
Barbara Perry
Dixie Hendrickson
Erica Johnson (College)
Jay Dusty Bull (High School)

2001-2002

Carol Juneau, Chair
Thomas Brown, Vice Chair
Cal Gilbert (Urban), Treas.
Norma Bixby
Art Hill (Wyoming)
Barbara Perry
Rae Peppers
Sharon Wagner (Parent)

2002-2003 Board

Carol Juneau, Chair
Thomas Brown, Vice Chair
Theresa Knoble, Treas.
Sharon Wagner (Parent), Sec.
Norma Bixby
Cal Gilbert (Urban)
Julie Cajune
Jonathan Windy Boy
Denise Juneau (College)
Don Munro (High School)

2003-2004 Board

Carol Juneau, Chair
Thomas Brown, Vice Chair
Willie Wright, Secretary
Norma Bixby, Treasurer
Julie Cajune
Arlene Augare
Donald Fish (Urban)
Les Munro (Parent)
Denise Juneau (College)
Don Munro (High School)
Patty LaPlant (Exec. Secty)

2004-2005 Board

Carol Juneau, Chair
Thomas Brown, Vice Chair
Nancy Stiffarm, Secretary
John Walter (Parent), Treas
Norma Bixby
Joe Arrowtop
Arlene Augare
Michael Munson (college)
Patricia Turcotte (college)
Olivia Main (High School)
Patty LaPlant (Exec. Secty)

2005-2006 Board

Carol Juneau, Chair
Thomas Brown, Vice-Chair
Dulce Whitford, Secretary
(Urban Rep)
Joe Arrowtop, Treasurer
Arlene Augare
Norma Bixby
Joyce Silverthorne
G. Bruce Meyers (Urban Rep)
Michael Running Wolf
(College)
Mariah C. Friedlander (High
School)