



The American Indian Parent Advisory Committee (AIPAC)

About Membership

Per Minnesota Statutes, section [124D.78, subdivision 3](#): *The American Indian education parent advisory committee must be composed of parents of children eligible to be enrolled in American Indian education programs; secondary students eligible to be served; American Indian language and culture education teachers and paraprofessionals; American Indian teachers; counselors; adult American Indian people enrolled in educational programs; and representatives from community groups. A majority of each committee must be parents of children enrolled or eligible to be enrolled in the programs. The number of parents of American Indian and non-American Indian children shall reflect approximately the proportion of children of those groups enrolled in the programs.*

About the Roster and Sign-in Sheet

The AIPAC roster is for committee members only. This form is electronic and fillable. Please type the committee member's name, email, and phone in the first column. Subsequent columns contain a drop-down menu option. Select the best option for each particular committee member.

The sign-in sheet is for district employees is also fillable. District employees often participate in committee meetings and serve as a bridge between the committee and the district, helping to navigate district processes while furthering the goals and initiatives of the committee members. Employee participation levels vary depending on the district. If an employee identifies as American Indian, they are eligible to serve as a voting committee member and may be included on the roster, rather than the district sign-in sheet.

Submission

Fall: For districts participating in the American Indian Education Aid program: MDE.AIEA@state.mn.us

March 1: As part of the AIPAC and district Annual Compliance process: MDE.AnnualCompliance@state.mn.us

Annual Compliance Overview

Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.78 requires Minnesota districts, charters, and tribal schools with 10 or more American Indian students to have an American Indian Parent Advisory Committee (AIPAC). Specifically, the statute cites that school boards and American Indian schools must provide for the maximum involvement of parents and children enrolled in education programs, programs for elementary and secondary grades, special education programs, and support services.

To be compliant with this statutory requirement, districts, charters, and tribal schools are required to submit annual compliance documents to the Office of American Indian Education (OAIE) by March 1 of each year. Also known as the vote of concurrence or nonconcurrence, annual compliance is a valuable opportunity for American Indian Parent Advisory Committee members to meet and discuss whether or not they concur with the educational offerings that have been extended by the district to American Indian students.

The Vote and Resolution

If the AIPAC finds that the district and/or school board have been meeting the needs of American Indian students, they issue a vote and resolution of concurrence. If they find that the district and/or school board have not been meeting the needs of American Indian students, they issue a vote and resolution of nonconcurrence. This vote is formally reflected on the annual compliance documents. Members of the AIPAC must present the vote and resolution to the school board.

If the vote is one of nonconcurrence, the AIPAC must provide written recommendations for improvement to the school board at the time of the presentation. The school board then has 60 days in which to respond in writing to the AIPAC recommendations. A copy of this written response must be provided to the OAIE.

Completing and Submitting the Documents

The following items are required when submitting annual compliance:

- ✓ The annual compliance/vote of concurrence or nonconcurrence document
- ✓ The AIPAC resolution document
- ✓ The AIPAC roster and district employee sign-in sheet (available to download on the OAIE webpage)

All items are fillable PDF forms. When completing, remember to:

- Include the district or school name and identifying number.
- Place a check mark next to the applicable vote.
- Include all dates as indicated.
- Add all signatures as required. **Digital signatures are accepted.*
- Use the drop-down menu in the roster to select the appropriate committee member options.

The District or School Does Not Have an AIPAC:

Districts or schools that do not have an AIPAC are still required to complete this paperwork.

- Place a check mark next to "Does Not Have an AIPAC".
- Obtain the signature of the superintendent or charter/tribal school director and the school board chair. The resolution page is not required.

Submission Deadline:

Email all three required items by March 1 to: mde.indian-education@state.mn.us

The American Indian Parent Advisory Committee Resolution

WHEREAS, the school board or district has an AIPAC composed of parents/guardians of American Indian children who are eligible for Indian education programs, American Indian language and culture teachers and paraprofessionals, American Indian teachers, American Indian counselors, American Indian adults enrolled in educational programming, and American Indian representatives from community;

WHEREAS, the school board or district affords the AIPAC the necessary information and the opportunity to effectively express their views concerning all aspects of American Indian education and the educational needs of the American Indian children enrolled in the school(s) and program(s); and,

WHEREAS, the AIPAC is directly involved with and advises the school board and district staff on Indian Education program planning; and,

WHEREAS, the AIPAC develops and submits recommendations to the school board and district staff pertaining to the needs of American Indian students.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the AIPAC concurs that the school board and district are compliant with Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.78, and that the school board and district are meeting the needs of American Indian students.

We, the American Indian Parent Advisory Committee, issue a **Vote of Concurrence**. We attest that the school board and/or district are compliant with Minnesota Statutes and that the school board and/or district are meeting the needs of American Indian students; or,

We, the American Indian Parent Advisory Committee, issue a **Vote of Nonconcurrence**. We attest that the school board and/or district are not compliant with Minnesota Statutes and that the school board and/or district are not meeting the needs of American Indian students. We have provided written recommendations for improvements to the school board, and we acknowledge that the school board has 60 days from the receipt of these recommendations in which to respond, in writing, to each recommendation.

Veronica Veaux, Ph.D.
AIPAC Chairperson Printed Name and Signature



2/4/2022
Date

Annual Compliance/Vote of Concurrence or Nonconcurrence

District, Charter, or Tribal School Name: Bemidji Area Schools IDS #31

The American Indian Parent Advisory Committee Vote

The AIPAC Issued a Vote of Concurrence

Date of Concurrent Vote: 02-01-2022

Date the AIPAC presented to the school board: 02-28-2022

The AIPAC Issued a Vote of Nonconcurrence

A vote of nonconcurrence requires the AIPAC to provide specific written recommendations for improvement to the school board. The school board is required to respond in writing to each recommendation within 60 days of the recommendations being put forth. The school board must provide this written response to both the AIPAC and to the Office of Indian Education.

Date of Nonconcurrent vote: _____

Date the AIPAC presented to the school board: _____

Date the written response from the school board is due: _____

The District/School Does Not Have an AIPAC

The district has not yet formed an AIPAC, but recognizes the need to do so in order to remain compliant with Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.78. By signing below, the district/school leadership commits to working with the Office of American Indian Education on committee formation.

Required signatures

**Digital signatures are accepted*

School Board Chairperson

Date

Superintendent or Charter/Tribal School Director

Date

Cherise Beam
AIPAC Chairperson

2/4/2022
Date

The Bemidji Local Indian Education Committee (L.I.E.C.) issued a Vote of Concurrence at the February 1, 2022 Meeting. They would like to offer the following recommendation to the school board:

#1. The Bemidji Area Schools will actively recruit people of color for open positions to increase staff by 2 over the next year.

#2. An annual diversity or anti-racism training for staff.

American Indian Parent Advisory Committee Member Roster

Committee Member Name, Email, and Phone	American Indian	Committee Member Role	Parent/Guardian of an American Indian Student
Veronica Veaux viveaux@gmail.com (218) 308-1356	Yes	Chair/Co-chair	Parent/Guardian of an American Indian Student
Petra Neadeau prneadeau@gmail.com (218) 368-4615	Yes	Vice Chair	Parent/Guardian of an American Indian Student
Sydney Novak snovak@isd31.net (218) 838-8429	Yes	General Member	Parent/Guardian of an American Indian Student
Sharon Kingbird sharonk@redlake.k12.mn.us (218) 3083138	Yes	General Member	Parent/Guardian of an American Indian Student
Doris Vleck doris_vleck@isd31.net (218) 760-6699	Yes	General Member	American Indian District Employee
MacKenna Sugar MACKENNA_SUGAR@isd31.net	Yes	General Member	American Indian Student
	Select one...	Select one...	Select one...
	Select one...	Select one...	Select one...

District Employee Sign-in Sheet

Employee Name, Email, and Phone	Employee Title
Jordan Hickman jordan_hickman@isd31.net (218) 333-3100	Director of Human Resources LEA Representative
Sonia Wadena sonia_wadena@isd31.net (218) 441-6355	Director of Indian Education
Patty Graham patty_graham@isd31.net (218) 441-5354	Indian Education Program Secretary
Tim Lutz tim_lutz@isd31.net (218) 333-3100	Superintendent of Schools