

This **Memorandum of Understanding** made on and effective from the **15<sup>th</sup>** day of **September, 2016**

between

Browning Public School District # 9

Heart Butte School District # 1

(Collectively, the **“Reservation Schools”** to include East Glacier Park School and Babb)

and

The Blackfeet Tribe of the Blackfeet Reservation, Office of Tribal Health and the Southern Piegan School Health and Wellness program

(Collectively referred to as the **“Parties”**)

**Supports the development and operation of a comprehensive school based health care program on the Blackfeet Reservation**

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## I. PURPOSE

- A. The Parties recognize that the members of the Tribe that suffer from many persistent health disparities and addressing these disparities will necessarily involve the reservation education system.
- B. The Parties also recognize that the education process will improve with an improved school health and wellness program on the reservation, to be located at 111 1<sup>st</sup> Ave SW, Browning Montana. Other site locations will be established and located within the school buildings where the services will be performed.
- C. To address a reservation wide school health and wellness program, the Parties have fostered a working relationship based on the principles memorialized in this document and intend to establish additional cooperative activities and projects that will improve health prevention and education.
- D. The Parties will develop and implement a program that provides the schools with Medical, Dental, Nutrition and Mental Health consultation and services through direct services by health professionals, and telehealth consultation as necessary. The parties will work with other health providers (*i.e. School Nurses, Good Medicine Program, Alta-care, etc.*), the Indian Health Service, and academic centers to improve the total education process.
- E. The parties intend to identify additional approaches to the provision of health services prevention and educational programming and will solicit the support of the parents/legal guardians and the community members in improving the education system.
- F. This project will periodically collect data for evaluation purposes through its funding agency Montana Health Care Foundation and for the use in the solicitation of additional resources. Clinical data will be collected appropriately and stored in a manner consistent with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and Montana State Laws and regulations.

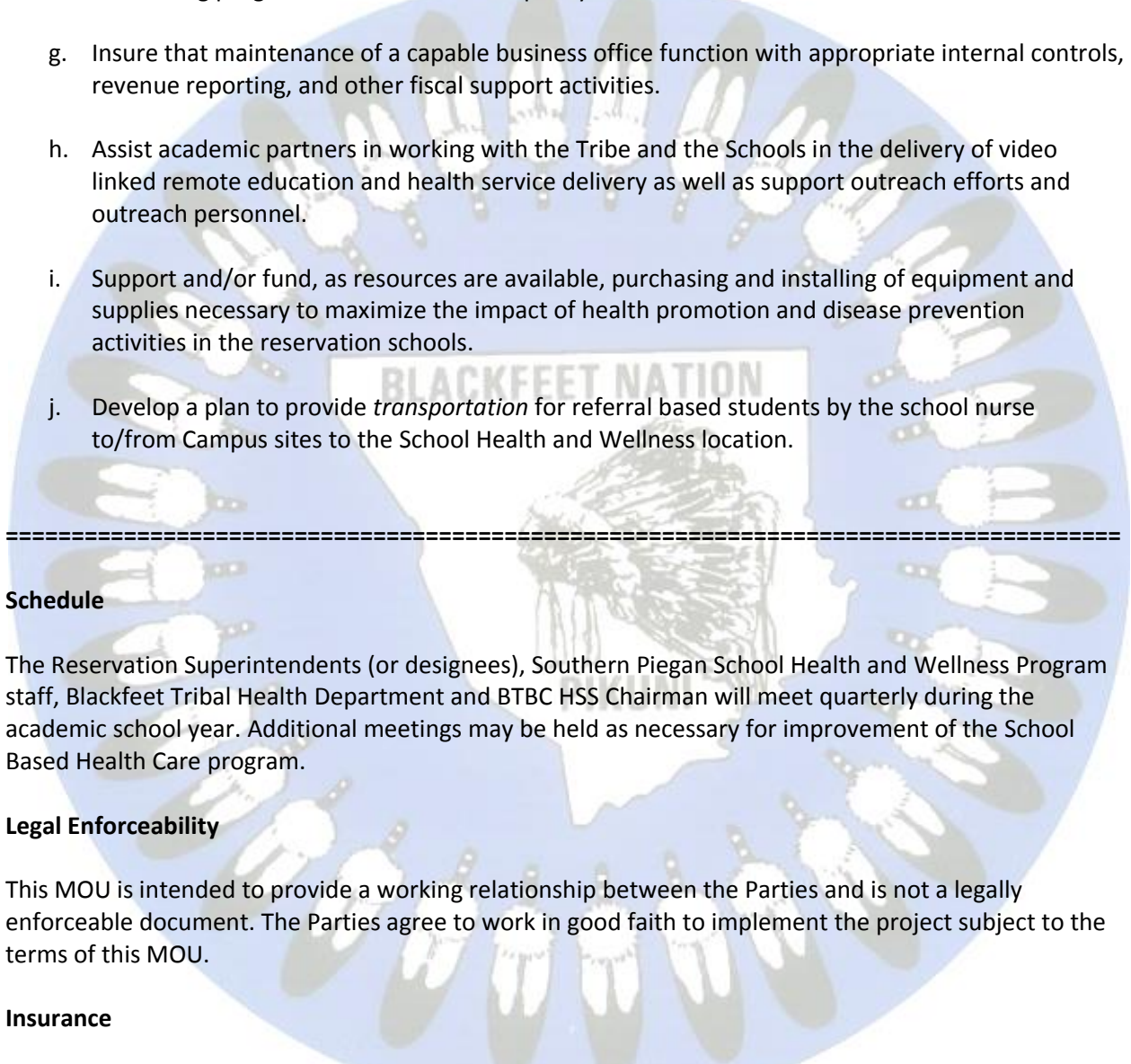
## II. THEREFORE, THE PARTIES HAVE THE FOLLOWING UNDERSTANDING:

### 1. The Reservation School (s) will:

- a. Participate with the Southern Piegan School Health and Wellness Program, Blackfeet Tribal Health Department and the Blackfeet Tribe in generating new ideas for projects and programs that will improve healthy behavior.
- b. Provide "Access to" a suitable environment, where appropriate and available for a fee if applicable, for the purpose of conducting of health education, clinical care, outreach efforts, and their evaluation.
- c. Participate in developing and promoting disease awareness, prevention, intervention and early detection to Blackfeet reservation communities and tribal members.
- d. Partner with other health-related organizations to develop programs that can address school health and wellness related to needs on the reservation.
- e. Continue to foster opportunities to collaborate with outside academic centers to enhance faculty and health service delivery. Support the coordination of telehealth equipment usage and maintenance *when applicable*.
- f. Provide executive oversight and guidance in the joint school health and wellness programs and participate in program evaluations.
- g. Assist in the timely communication with parents/legal guardians concerning identified health issues with their children and to obtain appropriate parental consents.
- h. Communicate and Network with clinic for arranging referral visits to the Southern Piegan School Health and Wellness Program. This may include transportation *as necessary which shall be provided by the School based clinic.*

### 2. The Southern Piegan School Health and Wellness Program, Blackfeet Tribal Health Department and the Blackfeet Tribe will:

- a. Establish mechanisms best suitable to communicate with parents concerning health services provided to children and seek to get the appropriate consent to treat packets signed for authorization in coordination with services.
- b. Employ licensed and credentialed health professionals and support staff to provide health services in the school facilities **if sustainable funding is available.**
- c. Participate in generating new ideas for projects and programs that will impact health disparities in the school age population of the reservation.

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- d. Develop and promote health awareness, prevention, intervention and early detection programs to our Blackfeet reservation communities and tribal members.
  - e. Provide educational opportunities for school faculty and for the school population of the reservation in childhood disease prevention.
  - f. Maintain appropriate policy and procedure manuals for the entire program including guidelines concerning program measurement and quality assurance.
  - g. Insure that maintenance of a capable business office function with appropriate internal controls, revenue reporting, and other fiscal support activities.
  - h. Assist academic partners in working with the Tribe and the Schools in the delivery of video linked remote education and health service delivery as well as support outreach efforts and outreach personnel.
  - i. Support and/or fund, as resources are available, purchasing and installing of equipment and supplies necessary to maximize the impact of health promotion and disease prevention activities in the reservation schools.
  - j. Develop a plan to provide *transportation* for referral based students by the school nurse to/from Campus sites to the School Health and Wellness location.
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### **Schedule**

The Reservation Superintendents (or designees), Southern Piegan School Health and Wellness Program staff, Blackfeet Tribal Health Department and BTBC HSS Chairman will meet quarterly during the academic school year. Additional meetings may be held as necessary for improvement of the School Based Health Care program.

### **Legal Enforceability**

This MOU is intended to provide a working relationship between the Parties and is not a legally enforceable document. The Parties agree to work in good faith to implement the project subject to the terms of this MOU.

### **Insurance**

**The parties acknowledge that they have adequate liability insurance applicable to their officers, each employees, and agents while acting within the scope of their employment by the parties. Therefore, each party hereby assumes any risks of personal injury and property damage attributable to the negligent acts or omissions of the party and its officers, employees, and agents.**

SIGNED BY THE PARTIES ON THE DATES SET OUT BELOW



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John P. Rouse, Superintendent  
Browning Public Schools

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Date

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V. Lee Folley, Superintendent  
Heart Butte Public Schools

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Date

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Karlona Sheppard, Superintendent/Principal  
East Glacier Park School

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Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Harry Barnes  
Blackfeet Tribal Chairman

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Date

