



# NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Ambler · Buckland · Deering · Kiana · Kivalina · Kobuk · Kotzebue · Noatak · Noorvik · Selawik · Shungnak  
PO Box 51 · Kotzebue, Alaska 99752 · Phone (907) 442-1800

## Indian Parent Action Committee (IPAC) Indian Education Monday, August 25, 2025

8:15 am

Teams Meeting or Call In

Dial in by phone 1-833-682-3239 Passcode 698 62 6914#

### AGENDA

- A. Call to Order
- B. Moment of Silence
- C. Introductions of Committee Members & Guests
- D. National Indian Education Convention & Trade Show Discussion
- E. Discussion of IPAC Resolution IPAC-2601
- F. Adoption of April 28, 2025, Minutes
- G. Approval of IPAC Resolution IPAC-2601
- H. Committee Comments
- I. Public Comments or Feedback
- J. Adjournment

#### Committee Members:

Margaret Hansen  
Tillie Ticket—Vice President  
Alice Adams—President  
Alice Melton Barr—Secretary  
Charlene Hadley—Parent Rep  
Kayla Pietila—Teacher Rep  
Vacant (student rep)  
Joy Cogburn-Smith (non-voting)

Team Link



MISSION: To provide a learning environment that inspires and challenges students and employees to excel.  
VISION: To graduate all students with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for a successful future.



**NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

*Ataatchikun Iñuunialiptigun (Through Our Way of Life Together as One)*

# ***Northwest Arctic Borough School District***

## **Indian Parent Action Committee (IPAC)**

Joy Cogburn-Smith  
State & Federal Programs

August 25, 2025



**NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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# National Indian Education Convention Oct 7-12 Spokane, WA

- Grant funding is available to send 3 committee members to the National Indian Education Convention.
- At the time of this presentation, the full agenda of the convention has not yet been published. However, past conventions have included sessions on native language immersion, cultural-connectedness, integrating the intergenerational culture into schools, community/tribal engagement and school tribal sovereignty.



## Discussion of IPAC Resolution 2601

- In Spring 2025, the Office of Indian Education updated its guidelines to require approval from the Indian Education Committee for all budget revisions to the Indian Education Formula Grant. Prior to this change, budget revisions that did not change the scope of the approved grant project could be made without IPAC approval.
- The successful and timely implementation of the Indian Education Formula Grant program depends on the flexibility to make adjustments to the budget in accordance with the needs of the program and allowable federal guidelines. The Director of State & Federal Programs is seeking approval from the IPAC to act as the administrative budget authority for the 2025-2026 Formula Indian Education budget, enabling the director to make necessary adjustments to ensure timely expenditure of funds by the end of the budget period.

**UNADOPTED MINUTES  
OF THE NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Mission: "To provide a learning environment that inspires and challenges students and employees to excel."  
Vision: "To graduate all students with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for a successful future."

Joy Cogburn-Smith called the Indian Parent Action Committee Meeting to order at 1:14 p.m. on April 28, 2025, in Kotzebue, AK, via Microsoft Teams.

CALL TO ORDER

Observed.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Committee Members present were:

- Margaret Hansen, NWABSD Board of Education President
- Alice Melton-Barr, NWABSD Board of Education Member
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ROLL CALL

Committee Members excused were:

- Charlene Hadley – Committee Member Buckland, Alaska
- Alice Adams – NWABSD Committee Member
- Tillie Ticket – NWABSD Committee Member

Committee Members absent:

- Zamara Ticket, NWABSD Student Representative

Staff/Guests present at the meeting were Terri Walker, NWABSD superintendent; Jeff Alexander, Assistant Superintendent; Kathryn self, HR Director; Perrian Windhausen, Director of Student Services; Tracy Bell, Director of Curriculum; Dena Strait, Capital Projects Manager; Natalie Dickey, Director of Administration; Joseph Groves, Director of ATC; Mark Moore, Director of Property Services; Joy Cogburn-Smith, Director of State and Federal Programs; Marie Greene, NWABSD Board Member; Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus, NWABSD Board Member; Shayne Pungowiyi, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Board Secretary; Desiree Hagen, KOTZ Radio; Kayla Pietila, Noatak Teacher.

INTRODUCTION OF  
STAFF/GUESTS

Margaret Hansen made a motion to approve February 24, 2025 Meeting Minutes, Alice Melton-Barr seconded the motion. Motion passed with no objections.

APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES

a. Teacher Representative Kayla Pietila

REVIEW/APPROVAL  
OF NOMINATIONS

Margaret Hansen made a motion to approve the nomination for teacher representative Kayla Pietila, seconded by Alice Melton-Barr. No discussion motion was passed with no objections.

Indian Education Committee approval of the District's Indian Education FY26 Application.  
Each year, the Northwest Arctic Borough School District submits an Indian Education application for funding under Title VI of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). The annual application requires approval from the Indian Parent Action Committee (IPAC).  
FY2026 Priorities for Indian ED

ACTION ITEM  
FY26 INDIAN  
EDUCATION  
APPLICATION  
APPROVAL

- The district will continue supporting the Native Language/Cultural program, with continued emphasis on professional development for the district's Native Language teachers in best practices in instruction. The district will also continue supporting cultural classrooms and providing teachers with professional development in creating culturally relevant instruction and making cultural connections within the classroom.
- Continued Development of local place-based Inupiaq Science Curriculum for 9-12 grades
  - Identify resources and supply needs and complete mapping of new curricula.
  - The project development and advisory teams meet to develop plans, needs, and community involvement.
  - Develop a website with information concerning the project.
  - Develop course materials for Science Courses
  - Incorporate place-based professional development for staff

**Indian ED Budget Considerations (actual budget will be based on funding which has not yet been allocated) Typically \$650,000 to \$725,000 annually**

Staffing

- Inupiaq Staff Development Specialist—Classified
- Staff Development Specialist for Placed-Based Science Curriculum—Certified
- 2 classified classroom paraprofessionals (Indian ED Paraprof, Noorvik & Selawik)
- 1 FTE Inupiaq Iisautri (Native Language Teachers)

The administration recommends the Committee approve the Indian Education Bylaws as presented.

Margaret Hansen moved to approve the FY26 Indian Ed Application as presented, Seconded by Alice Melton-Barr - Motion was passed by unanimous consent..

DISTRICT OVERVIEW  
OF EDUCATIONAL  
PROGRAMS  
PRESENTATION

**Closing Comments: None**

COMMITTEE  
COMMENTS

**Public Comments: None**

PUBLIC/TRIBAL  
COMMENTS OR  
FEEDBACK

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

ADJOURN

UNADOPTED

# **INDIAN PARENT ACTION COMMITTEE (IPAC)**

## **Northwest Arctic Borough School District**

### **Resolution No. IPAC-2601**

#### **A RESOLUTION TO GRANT ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET AUTHORITY TO THE DIRECTOR OF STATE & FEDERAL PROGRAMS FOR THE 2025–2026 INDIAN EDUCATION FORMULA GRANT**

**WHEREAS**, the Indian Parent Action Committee (IPAC) of the Northwest Arctic Borough School District (NWABSD) provides guidance and input on the administration of the Indian Education Formula Grant (Title VI); and

**WHEREAS**, the successful and timely implementation of the Indian Education Formula Grant program depends on the flexibility to make adjustments to the budget in accordance with the needs of the program and allowable federal guidelines; and

**WHEREAS**, the Director of State & Federal Programs is responsible for overseeing the effective administration and compliance of the Indian Education Formula Grant and is in the best position to monitor and revise expenditures in real time; and

**WHEREAS**, budget revisions may include, but are not limited to, the reallocation of funds between allowable funding categories such as personnel, fringe, supplies, professional development, contracted services, and travel in order to meet the goals and objectives of the grant;

#### **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. The Indian Parent Action Committee (IPAC) hereby grants administrative budget authority to the Director of State & Federal Programs for the 2025–2026 school year to make any necessary revisions to the Indian Education Formula Grant budget in alignment with federal guidelines and district procedures.
2. This authority includes the transfer or reallocation of funds from one budget category to another as needed to effectively support the implementation and success of the Indian Education Formula Grant program. However, this authority does not extend to any budget revisions that would change the scope, purpose, or objectives of the program. Any such changes that affect the program's intent or design must receive prior review and approval by the Indian Parent Action Committee (IPAC).

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and will remain in effect through the conclusion of the 2025–2026 Indian Education Formula Grant ending June 30, 2026.

**Adopted this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025**, by the Northwest Arctic Borough School District's Indian Parent Action Committee.

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Alice Adams IPAC President