

# American Indian Parent Advisory Council Vote of Concurrency

Wednesday, February 19, 2025 7:00 PM

Wrenshall School Library Media Center, 207 Pioneer Drive, Wrenshall, MN 55797

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| 1. <b>Call to Order</b>  | <b>Speaker (s) :</b><br>Chairperson           |
| 2. <b>Action Items</b>   | <b>Speaker (s) :</b><br>Chairperson           |
| 2.a. Presentation of the American Indian Parent Advisory Council Vote of Concurrency | <b>Speaker (s) :</b> Carol Kot and Erin Riley |
| 3. <b>Adjournment</b>  | <b>Speaker (s) :</b><br>Chairperson           |

**Wrenshall School District #100**  
**February 11th AIPAC Minutes**

**Start Time 4:40 pm.**

**Present in attendance.**

Jeff Pesta, Erin Riley, Carol Kot, Jeff Blanchard, Syndy Seliskar, Michelle Blanchard, Kevin Kot

State timelines discussed.

Closed meeting with only voting members present for discussion. The group went through measurable goals and voted concurrence by all members. The vote was shared with all in attendance. A vote of concurrence will include further recommendations when presented to the school board.

**Recommendations**

- Larger room size as current room only accommodates 6 in a small area. Report from parents students not utilizing the room because not enough space.
- District to include goals in the 6 focus areas. This way AIE AIPAC recommendations and goals can help support the district goals for American Indian Students and not supplant what the district should be doing to help us all work together for the good of AIE students.
- Priority to join Dream Catchers

Cultural Liaison role clarification and communication need improvement from Special Education to Liaison. Principle Blanchard will notify the Cultural liaison if an American Indian student was listed in the SST and CST meetings for additional academic support. Cultural Liaison Mr Kot will gather information about the Liaison role to help clarify the position.

Dream Catcher meeting needs to be set up to help staff understand American Indian culture and SPED and to involve Liaison in Special Education as part of the team.

Larger room

**Adjourn 5:36 pm**



## AIPAC Recommendations

- Larger space is needed for the American Indian program, as some parents and guardians have expressed concerns about their children not being able to access the room due to insufficient space, and crowded conditions.
- Incorporating measurable district goals into the State American Indian Aid application.
- Ongoing clarification of the Cultural Liaison role within the District.

Recommendations from the 2023/2024 school year not addressed.

- Conduct an American Indian Academic standards audit.
- AIPAC collaborative review of the MDE Indian Education Self-Assessment Rubric.
- Staff development to continue the 8-hour cultural competency requirement with opportunities for staff to have Indigenous Peoples education focus.
- Gather, review, and make recommendations/goals with American Indian students to include but not limited to: the number of Indian students in SPED, testing, and bullying data.



## Annual Compliance Overview

[Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 124D.78](#) requires Minnesota districts, charter schools, cooperatives, and Tribally controlled schools with 10 or more American Indian students to have an American Indian Parent Advisory Committee (AIPAC). Specifically, the Statutes cite 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.

Districts, charter schools, cooperatives, and Tribally controlled schools with 10 or more American Indian students 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 AIPAC 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

Parent Committees receive data from the district on whether or not the district has met the needs of American Indian students using the goals from the program plan submitted and approved by MDE. The AIPAC votes on how the district is achieving and accountable to the goals. The AIPAC should work with administration to fill out the Program Plan Review. This vote is formally reflected on the annual compliance documents. Members of the AIPAC 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 OAIE.

## Completing and Submitting the Documents

### The Following Items are Required When Submitting Annual Compliance

- Annual Compliance/Vote of Concurrence or Nonconcurrence document
- AIPAC Roster and District Employee Sign-In Sheet
- American Indian Education Aid Program Plan Review
- AIPAC minutes indicating they have received data on how students are faring

### **When Completing the Fillable PDF Forms, Remember To:**

- Include the district, charter school, cooperative, Tribally controlled school name and identifying number.
- Place a checkmark or X 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.
- Do not modify this form in any way except to add text directly into the areas designated for narrative text or to fill a check box.
- Documents must be received at MDE in Portable Document Format (PDF) format.

### **The District, Charter School, Cooperative, Tribally Controlled School Does Not Have an AIPAC**

All educational entities with more than 10 American Indian students that do not have an AIPAC, are still required to complete this paperwork. Tribally Controlled schools may use their School Board as their AIPAC.

Place a checkmark or X next to “Does Not Have an AIPAC.”

Obtain the signature of the superintendent or charter school/Tribally controlled school director and the school board chair.

### **Submission Deadline**

Email all required items by **March 1** to the [Office of American Indian Education](mailto:mde.aiea@state.mn.us) (mde.aiea@state.mn.us).

# Annual Compliance (Vote of Concurrence or Nonconcurrence)

District, Charter School, Cooperative, or Tribally Controlled School Name \_\_\_\_\_

School Year \_\_\_\_\_

## American Indian Parent Advisory Committee (AIPAC) Vote

### The AIPAC Issued a Vote of Concurrence

Date of Concurrent Vote \_\_\_\_\_

Date the AIPAC Presented to the School Board \_\_\_\_\_

### 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 American Indian Education (OAIE).

Date of Nonconcurrent Vote \_\_\_\_\_

Date the AIPAC Presented to the School Board \_\_\_\_\_

Date the Written Response from the School Board is Due \_\_\_\_\_

### The District, Charter School, Cooperative, or Tribally Controlled School Does Not Have an AIPAC

The district or school does not yet have an AIPAC, but recognizes the need to do so in order to remain compliant with Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 124D.78. By signing below, district, charter school, cooperative, or Tribally controlled school leadership commits to working with the Office of American Indian Education on committee formation.

## Required Signatures

\_\_\_\_\_

School Board Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

Superintendent or Charter School/Tribally Controlled School Director

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

AIPAC Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

## American Indian Education Aid Program Plan Review

This document serves as the foundation for how your district or school is fulfilling the measurable goals of the program plan, reviewed and approved by the Office of American Indian Education (OAIE) at the Minnesota Department of Education. This document is necessary to submit to be eligible for American Indian Education Aid next year.

Under [Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 124D.81, subdivision 3](#), districts and schools should be identifying American Indian students and tracking their data and progress towards positive educational experiences.

### Directions

This document should be completed with the American Indian Parent Advisory Committee (AIPAC) and district staff that work primarily with American Indian students. Both the AIPAC and district staff will meaningfully and authentically collaborate to complete this document which will be uploaded with your compliance documentation. The resolution must be accompanied by Parent Advisory Committee meeting minutes that show they have been appraised by the district or school on the goals of the Indian Education Program Plan and the measurement of progress toward those goals as required by [Minnesota Statutes 2024, 124D.78, subdivision 2](#).

Using the approved American Indian Education Aid application that was submitted, communicate how the district or school has progressed towards all the goals outlined within each narrative for areas 1-6. Data should be shared with the AIPAC in order to concur with the district plan. Additionally, the [Self-Assessment Rubric](#) is another useful tool for AIPACs to understand programming and to vote on concurrence.

### Measurable Goals

These program details must align to [Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 124D.81, subdivision 2](#).

**Focus Area 1:** Support postsecondary preparation for pupils

**Focus Area 2:** Support the academic achievement of American Indian students

**Focus Area 3:** Make curriculum relevant to the needs, interests, and cultural heritage of American Indian pupils

**Focus Area 4:** Provide positive reinforcement of the self-image of American Indian pupils

**Focus Area 5:** Develop intercultural awareness among pupils, parents, and staff

**Focus Area 6:** Supplement, not supplant, state and federal educational and co-curricular programs

| Focus Area  | Measurable Goal(s) From Approved Plan | Progress Towards Goal(s) Using District Data | Is Progress Sufficient for Concurrence? |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| Support postsecondary preparation for pupils  |                                       |  |   |
| Support the academic achievement of American Indian students                                      |                                       |  |   |
| Make curriculum relevant to the needs, interests, and cultural heritage of American Indian pupils |                                       |  |   |
| Provide positive reinforcement of the self-image of American Indian pupils                        |                                       |  |   |
| Develop intercultural awareness among pupils, parents, and staff                                  |                                       |  |   |
| Supplement, not supplant, state and federal educational and co-curricular programs                |                                       |  |   |

## District Requirements Under Minnesota Statutes

### Coordinator

Any district or participating school that conducts American Indian education programs with 100 or more state-identified American Indian students are to have a coordinator dedicated to State Indian Education programming.

[Minnesota Statutes 2023, section 124D.76, Dedicated American Indian Education Coordinator](#)

- No, we do not have 100 or more state identified American Indian students
- Yes, we have 100 or more state identified American Indian students
  - We have a dedicated American Indian Education Coordinator
  - We do not have a dedicated American Indian Education Coordinator

### Culture and Language Classes

Any district or participating school that conducts American Indian education programs with five percent *or* 100 or more state-identified American Indian students must provide American Indian culture and language classes.

[Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 124D.71, subdivision 7](#)

- Yes, we provide American Indian culture and language classes for all American Indian students eligible for American Indian Education Aid
- No, we do not have at least five percent; or 100 or more American Indian students

### Signatures

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AIPAC Chairperson

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Director of American Indian Education

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Date

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Date

For more information, please visit the [Office of American Indian Education's website](#).

Please submit this documentation to the [Office of American Indian Education](#) (mde.aiea@state.mn.us).



## The American Indian Parent Advisory Committee (AIPAC) Roster

### About Membership

Per [Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 124D.78, subdivisions 3](#), The American Indian Parent Advisory Committee must be composed of parents or guardians of American Indian children eligible to be enrolled in American Indian education programs; American Indian secondary students; American Indian family members of students eligible to be enrolled in American Indian education programs; American Indian language and culture education teachers and paraprofessionals; American Indian teachers; American Indian district employees; American Indian counselors; adult American Indian people enrolled in educational programs; and American Indian community members. The majority of each committee must be the parents or guardians of the American Indian children enrolled or eligible to be 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. You must include the committee member's name, email, and phone number in the first column. Subsequent columns contain a drop-down menu option. Select the best option for each particular committee member.

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, charter school, cooperative, and Tribally controlled school sign-in sheet.

### Submission

The first submission is with your American Indian Education Aid program plan, the second submission is with your annual compliance documents.

Submit completed rosters to the [Office of American Indian Education](mailto:mde.aiea@state.mn.us) (mde.aiea@state.mn.us).



| Committee Member Name, Email, and Phone | American Indian | Committee Member Role | Primary Area of Representation |
|---|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
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|---|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
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**District, Charter, or Tribally Controlled School Employee Sign-in Sheet**

| <b>Employee Name, Email, and Phone</b> | <b>Employee Title</b> |
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