



Bureau of Indian Education Advisory Board For Exceptional Children Virtual Meeting - June 23-24, 2022

MEETING AGENDA

Purpose of the Meeting: To provide the Board members several types of special education program information from various BIE central office staff and Bureau funded school presenters.

Supplementary Information: This meeting is being held under the provisions of the Public Law 108-446 Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004, Part B, Sec. 611(a)(6); Sec. 612(a)(21)(A); the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) of 1972 (5 U.S.C., Appendix, as amended); and the Government in the Sunshine Act of 1976 (5 U.S.C. 552b, as amended).

Virtual Meeting & Time Zone: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and for the safety of all individuals the BIE Advisory Board meeting will be virtual. **The Mountain Daylight Time (MDT) zone will be used for this entire meeting.** All meetings, including virtual sessions, are open to the public in their entirety.

Zoom.Gov meeting access information

Topic: Meeting for the BIE Advisory Board for Exceptional Children

Time: June 23 and 24, 2022, 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM daily, Mountain Daylight Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom.Gov Meeting

<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1606199030?pwd=YlVJTGhqY3FyVE5mL1AyTHc1eEgrUT09>

Meeting ID: 160 619 9030, **Passcode:** 734307

One tap mobile: +16692545252,,1606199030#,,,,*734307# US (San Jose)
+16692161590,,1606199030#,,,,*734307# US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 160 619 9030, **Passcode:** 734307

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Find your local number: <https://www.zoomgov.com/u/aqOldXBHH>

Public Comments: The BIE continuously seeks comments from the public regarding the concerns or issues to improve special education/related services for students with disabilities within the BIE school system. Comments can be sent to the Designated Federal Officer (DFO) using:

- **Email:** Jennifer.davis@bie.edu or
- **FAX:** (602) 265-0293 Attention: Jennifer Davis, DFO
- **U.S. Postal or Hand Delivered to:** Bureau of Indian Education, Attention: Jennifer Davis, DFO, 2600 N. Central Ave., 12th Floor, Suite 250, Phoenix, AZ 85004; or
- **Oral Comments:** Can be made using Microsoft Teams during the board meeting.



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There will be four Public Commenting sessions provided for the public during this meeting:

- **June 23, 2022**, Day 1 - Public Commenting Session #1, 15 minutes, 11:15 – 11:30
- **June 23, 2022**, Day 1 - Public Commenting Session #1, 15 minutes, 2:30 - 2:45
- **June 24, 2022**, Day 2 - Public Commenting Session #1, 15 minutes, 9:45 – 10:00
- **June 24, 2022**, Day 2 - Public Commenting Session #1, 15 minutes, 1:00 - 1:15

DAY 1 - Thursday, June 23, 2022, 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM (MDT)

The Mountain Daylight Time zone (MDT) will be used for this meeting.

8:00 AM BIE Advisory Board meeting - Board Chairperson and DFO

- Welcome, Call to Order & Roll Call - Norman Shawanokasic, Chairperson
- Webinar Logistics, Meeting Purpose, IDEA and FACA Regulations
- Old Business - Review meeting minutes of last meeting
- New Business

8:30 AM Special Education Updates from the Associate Deputy Director (ADD) Regions:

Bureau Operated Schools (BOS), Tribally Controlled Schools (TCS) and the Navajo Region Schools (BOS and TCS).

Each presentation will be 45 minutes (30 min. presentation, 15 min. for discussion with the Board)

- **8:30 – 9:15** Gloria Yepa and Katharine Ford, Education Specialists (Special Education). Bureau Operated Schools (BOS).
- **9:15 – 10:00** Dr. Cherie Poitra, Acting ADD and Education Specialist (Special Education). Tribally Controlled Schools (TCS)

The following questions are provided to the group to prepare for the discussion.

1. Describe the challenges and needs your schools have in delivering quality special education services.
2. Comment on the 2021 Annual Report. Provide input on priorities and recommendations within the report.
3. What open/vacant positions do you have in your region? (i.e., related services, special education teachers, special education paraprofessionals)
4. What activities are being planned in your region for SY22-23 to ensure special education and related services are being adequately supported? How will the Education Resource Center's within your region be involved with projects and activities?



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10:00 AM Break (15 minutes)

10:15 AM Continuation - Special Education Updates from the ADD Regions

- **10:15 – 11:00** Evangeline Bradley-Wilkinson, Acting Special Education Coordinator and Carrie Watahomogie, Education Specialists (Special Education). Navajo Region Schools (BOS and TCS).

11:00 AM Board Reflection (15 min.) – the Board will discuss the Special Education Updates.

11:15 AM Public Commenting Session - (15 minutes) - join by webinar or dial in using your phone. The online meeting access information is found on page 1 of this agenda.

11:30 AM Board worktime (30 min.) - work on priorities or next meeting agenda and logistics.

12:00 PM Lunch (1 hour)

1:00 PM BIE Office of Sovereignty in Indian Education - Mr. Spike Bighorn, Program Manager

This presentation will be 60 minutes (45 minutes presentation, 15 minutes for discussion with the Board)

The following questions are provided to the presenter to prepare for the discussion.

1. Provide an update about the Tribal Education Department (TED) grantees (the Hopi Tribe, Navajo Nation, and the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians) regarding progress in achieving the intended project outcomes from each grantee, and more specifically the provision of special education services. The purpose of the update is to inform the Advisory Board regarding that status of ongoing efforts to achieve tribal sovereignty and authority for the education programs as provided with ongoing BIE funding support at the three Tribal Education Departments that provided presentations during the April 28-29, 2021 Advisory Board meeting.
2. How has the implementation of the TED grant project benefitted the overall system of education for students and families on reservations who received the TED grants (e.g., changes to tribal education Code, expanded authority, enhanced support of federally supported programs and services, etc.), and more specifically the provision of special education services?
3. What are the most significant challenges encountered in the implementation of the TED grants for students with disabilities and how will these challenges be addressed?



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4. What do you see as the role and responsibility of the BIE in supporting the effectiveness and positive outcomes of your TED grant priorities?
5. What recommendations can you provide to assist tribes who are committed to exercising greater authority and autonomy for the education of Indian children on Indian lands and addressing the provision of special education services?

2:00 PM Board Reflection (15 min.) – the Board will discuss the TED grantee presentation.

2:15 PM Break (15 minutes)

2:30 PM Public Commenting Session - (15 minutes) - join by webinar or dial in using your phone. The online meeting access information is found on page 1 of this agenda.

2:45 PM Board worktime (30 min.) - work on priorities or next meeting agenda and logistics.

4:00 PM Recess

DAY 2 - Friday, June 24, 2022, 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM (MDT)

The Mountain Daylight Time zone (MDT) will be used for this meeting.

8:00 AM BIE Advisory Board meeting - Board Chairperson and DFO

- Welcome, Call to Order & Roll Call - Norman Shawanokasic, Chairperson
- Webinar Logistics, Meeting Purpose, IDEA and FACA Regulations
- Old Business
- New Business

8:30 AM Live Panel Discussion with Special Education Coordinators (1-hour)

A live discussion between a select group of Special Education Coordinators who work within or closely with various BIE funded schools who have volunteered to discuss special education topics with members from the BIE Advisory Board. Representatives from each of the three ADD regions: Bureau Operated Schools (BOS), Tribally Controlled Schools (TCS) and Navajo Schools (BOS and TCS), with various grade levels from K-12, will be included.

Dr. Harvey Rude, Vice Chairperson of the BIE Advisory Board will facilitate the discussion between both groups of experts and leaders so that the board members and audience can learn from their discussion and interaction.

Seven Special Education Coordinators have volunteered to be part of the live panel discussion.



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- Bureau Operated Schools:
 - **Melonna Plant, Special Education Coordinator** serving Turtle Mountain Middle School, grades 6-8; located on the Turtle Mountain Reservation in Belcourt, ND; and
 - **Jennie Platerio, Education Specialist** working in a Cooperative Agreement Unit (CAU), serving 4 schools located in southern AZ on the Tohono O'odham Nation. San Simon School, grades K-8 located in San Simon, AZ; Santa Rosa Day School, grades K-8, located in Sells, AZ; Santa Rosa Ranch School, grades K-8 located in Sells, AZ; and Tohono O'odham High School, grades 9-12, located in Sells, AZ.
- Navajo Bureau Operated School:
 - **Grace Benally, Head Teacher**, Educational Support Services serving Wingate HS , grades 9-12, located in Fort Wingate, NM.
- Navajo Tribally Controlled Schools:
 - **Karen Bramlett, Principal & Special Education Coordinator** serving the Alamo Navajo School, grades K-12, located on the Navajo Nation in Magdalena, NM; and
 - **Hertha Woody, Exceptional Student Services Coordinator & Teacher**, serving Leupp Schools Inc., grades K-12, located on the Navajo Nation located in Leupp, AZ.
- Tribally Controlled Schools:
 - **Dana Marshall, Special Education Director** serving St. Francis Indian School, grades K-12, located in Saint Francis, SD and governed by the Board of Directors of Sicangu Oyate Ho.
 - **Seatha Pacheco, Special Education Coordinator** serving Santa Fe Indian school, a Residential Program for, grades 7-12, governed by the 19 Pueblo Governors of NM. The school is located Santa Fe, NM.

The following 4 questions are provided to the group to prepare for the discussion.

Continuation - Live Panel Discussion with Special Education Coordinators (1-hour)

1. What type of technical assistance needs do you and/or your school colleagues have in the provision of quality special education services?
2. What are the challenges and initiatives for the schools? What is working and not working?
3. How does your school address the special education indicators such as graduation rate, Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) and schoolwide assessment results as outlined in the Local School Performance Plan (LSPP)?
4. Describe the level of your schools' special education involvement in the development of the schoolwide comprehensive needs assessment, SMART goals, and school improvement plan.

9:30 AM Board Reflection (15 min.) – the Board will discuss the Live Panel topics.



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9:45 AM Public Commenting Session - (15 minutes) - join by webinar or dial in using your phone.
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10:00 AM Break (15 minutes)

10:15 AM BIE Special Education Updates - Dr. Eugene Thompson, Supervisory Education Specialist. (1 hr. 30 min.)

The following questions are provided to the presenter to prepare for the discussion.

1. BIE's Special Education Coordination of Services Plan:
 - a. What activities in the current plan have been implemented?
 - b. Once the plan has been updated, how will the DPA, ERCs, and local schools receive training and technical assistance regarding the plan and processes?
2. 3. BIE's Special Education SY2021-2022 Monitoring activities:
 - a. Provide a description of overall strengths and issues gleaned from the monitoring process.
3. BIE's Special Education Policy and Procedures Handbook:
 - a. Provide an update.
4. 3. BIE's Special Education Dispute Resolution and Due Process:
 - a. Provide an update about how many due process hearings has the BIE had for the past 2-years and what are the results? (Maintain confidentiality).
 - b. Provide an update about How many potential issues are resolved before the issue escalates to a formal due process hearing?

11:45 AM Board Reflection (15 min.) – the Board will discuss the BIE Special Education Updates.

12:00 PM Lunch (1 hour)

1:00 PM Public Commenting Session - (15 minutes) - join by webinar or dial in using your phone.
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1:15 PM BIE Central Office Update (45 min.)

The following two questions are provided to the presenter to prepare for the discussion.

1. Provide an overview of the educator and related service provider preparation programs at the post-secondary institutions of higher education (Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), Haskell Indian Nations University (HINU), Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI)). The board requests a handout related to this topic prior to June meeting. Send the handout to the BIE Advisory Board DFO.
2. Provide a summary for the “State of the BIE”, to assist the BIE advisory board with recommendations for the annual report.

2:00 PM Board Reflection (15 min.) – the Board will discuss the Central Office Updates

2:15 PM Break (15 minutes)

2:30 PM Board worktime - work on priorities or next meeting agenda and logistics.

4:00 PM Adjourn