

SISSETON-WAHPETON OYATE OF THE
LAKE TRAVERSE RESERVATION

CHARTER OF
THE
SISSETON WAHPETON SCHOOL BOARD

The Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate, under its amended Constitution and By- Laws, Article VII -Powers, Section I (g), (h) and G), has the powers to take any action by resolution through boards to carry into effect the foregoing purposes, to promote education and such other services as may contribute to the social advancement of members of the tribe and to approve such organizations by a proper delegation of authorities by the Tribal Council, hereby establishes the SISSETON WAHPETON SCHOOL BOARD.

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of this Board shall be: SISSETON WAHPETON SCHOOL BOARD.

ARTICLE II DURATION

The Board shall be perpetual in name and duration.

ARTICLE III PURPOSES

- (A) To provide an educational process for students of Indian ancestry, which will take into perspective the cultural heritage, and social background of the Indian student;
- (B) To develop educational programs relevant to Indian culture, history, art, language and tradition to be used in the educational system;
- (C) To develop, implement, operate and evaluate basic education programs(K-12) to be used in the educational system;
- (D) To further the educational alternatives available to parents of Indian children by developing, maintaining and operating educational institutions governed by the School Board.
- (E) To advocate, sponsor and support the availability and utilization of resources and personnel to aid in the advancement of educational opportunities of Indian children;
- (F) To formulate and enhance educational curricula relevant to the needs of Indian people and communities;
- (G) To advance Indian self-determination through higher education of Indian people;
- (H) To provide for and facilitate the presentation of works relation to the cultural and artistic endeavors of the indigenous people of North America;
- (I) To employ competent educational personnel to fulfill the purposes set out above.

ARTICLE IV POWERS

The School Board shall have the following powers

- A. To be perpetual in name;
- B. To be immune from suit under Tribal sovereign immunity;
- C. To purchase, take, receive, lease, take by gift, devise or bequest, or otherwise acquire, own, hold, improve, use and otherwise deal in and with any personal and real property, including Indian trust or restricted lands whether within or outside the reservation, or any interest therein, wherever situated;
- D. To make contracts, agreements, incur liabilities, borrow money at market interest rates from commercial lending institutions, as the Board may determine appropriate and secure any of its obligations by mortgage or pledge of all or any of its property or income;
- E. To invest and reinvest funds;
- F. To conduct its affairs, carry on its operation, hold property, have offices and have such other powers as are generally exercised by School Boards;
- G. To elect or appoint officers and agents of the Board and define their duties and fix their compensation;
- H. To make and alter By-laws, not inconsistent with this Charter or with the laws, ordinances and regulations of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate and the United States for the administration and regulation of the affairs of the School Board.
- I. To promulgate and make rules and regulations affecting elementary and secondary education on the reservation.

ARTICLE V REGISTERED OFFICE AND REGISTERED AGENT

There registered office and agent shall be:

- A. Education Department, Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate, P.O. Box 509, Agency Village, South Dakota 57262
- B. The registered agent shall be the current chairperson of the SISSETON WAHPETON SCHOOL BOARD, with the address being the same as Article V (A).

ARTICLE VI SCHOOL BOARD

- A. Each Board member shall be elected by the eligible voters (18 years and older) from his/her district, and shall be elected and serve according to each districts constitution and By-laws.
- B. The Board shall have management of the school;
- C. The Board shall appoint officers consisting of a Chairperson, Vice- Chairperson, and Secretary/Treasurer who shall comprise the Executive Committee of the Board, who shall carry out the duties and powers of the Board as defined in this Charter and in the By-laws.

ARTICLE VII BY-LAWS

The By-laws shall be reviewed and approved by the Board and the Tribal Council.

ARTICLE VIII AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this Charter and to the By-laws shall be approved by the Board and by the Tribal Council.

ARTICLE IX MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

The initial School Board under this Charter shall consist of the following named persons each of whom was duly elected by their respective political districts to serve a term, beginning on July 1, 2003, and consistent with each Districts Constitution and By-laws.

Olivia Johnson, Chairperson
Buffalo Lake District

Jackie Grant
Long Hollow District

Ellen Fisher, Vice-Chairperson
Enemy Swim District

Gerald German
Big Coulee District

Shirley MacConnell,
Secretary/Treasurer Heipa
District

Frank Williams
Lake Traverse District

John Cloud
Old Agency District

SWO Council Approval: 11/16/2015