

Indian Education Advisory Committee (IEAC)
Meeting Minutes 1/22/2026
Zoom

Committee Member	Seat Filled	Present	Absent
Chair – Fawn Hunter	Washoe County School District (WCSD)	X	
Vice Chair – Lance West	Schurz Elementary School	X	
Margaret Gunshows	Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada Child Division (ITCN)	X	
Kari Emm	Tribal Students College of Agriculture, Biotechnology & Natural Resources University of Nevada	X	
Fredina Drye-Romero	Nevada Department of Education (NDE)	X	
Richie Savage	Indian Education Clark County School District	X	
Sara Twiss	Walker River Paiute Tribe (WRPT) Education	X	
Kyle Ethelbah	UNLV	X	

Department of Native American Affairs (DNAA):

Stacey Montooth, Executive Director
Dr. Arlie Stops, Nevada Indian Commission
Lori Arrive, Office Manager
Lawanda Jones, Opioid Prevention Specialist

Other Attendees:

Jason Molino, Tribal Liaison, Nevada Division of Public and Behavior Health
Patricia Olmstead, Tribal Liaison, Taxation
Annie Millar, Woodfords Educator, Social Worker
Fran.Maldonado, IQWA Tribal Liaison, Educator Headstart RSIC, Cultural Compence WNC
Vanessa Justice, Tribal Liaison, Division of Social Service
CJ Brady, Tribal Liaison NV attorney General
Emily Underwood, Manager Office of Indigenous relations, UNR
Sara Portillo, Health Plan NV, Tribal Liaison NPN & School Health Services
Elizebeth Stanton, Lovelock Paiute, Education Director Yerington Paiute Tribe

Roll by Taken by Chair Hunter

Quorum established at 1:05 PM

I. Invocation by Stacey Montooth

II. **Welcome by Fawn Hunter, Introductions by all attendees**

III. **Initial Public Comment**

IV. **Report on November 19 IEAC workshop focused on Great Basin Tribal lesson plans, ARP ESSER Project – Fredina Drye Romero**

Fredina – Jooba is working with UNLV to put lessons on a platform like Canva to be ready to go for the Indian Education Summit in March.

Jooba will also be talking to the IEAC group on Wednesday at the Summit.

Fredina gives thanks to Dr. Joshua Bonde for facilitating the last IEAC meeting and coming up with three subject areas to identify talking points.

VI. **Follow up on IEAC individual responsibilities and subject areas – Fawn Hunter**

Q1 Identify consistent talking points re: fee waiver -- Kyle Ethelbah, Kari Emm

Kyle and Kari agreed they both would get together and create an initial talking points and send to committee to get feedback.

Q1 Goal Identify which Tribes have MOU's currently and with which districts - Sara Twiss, Margaret Gunshow

-plan and execute MOU workshop at summit.

Margaret Gunshow has reached out to the Elko and Owyhee tribes. Both the tribes and schools did not have information on MOU's.

Sara Twiss confirmed that Mineral and Lyon County both have MOU's and will be revised and expanded with Walker River Paiute Tribe Council (WRPT). Researching other Tribes and the State with their MOU and using as a guide to implement into the summit workshop.

Q1 Refine and consolidate baseline surveys and re-execute, rotating focus group quarterly -

Lance West, Fawn Hunter, Ritchie Savage

Group agreed to communicate through email to review survey and present some talking points to IEAC at next meeting.

For March 2026 - Submit draft talking points to NIC for comment and approval.

Group agreed to make talking points with their individual groups. Also mentioning anyone at this meeting is welcome to add to any subject area.

VII. **Indian Education Summit Planning – Fredina Drye Romero**

Will be working with UNR, WestEd, Office of Indigenous Relations for the Summit.

Cost for registration will be \$125.00

Wednesday March 25, 1pm-4pm - Tribal Leaders Gathering, Tribal leaders and Superintendent
Three priorities, review and data, break out, student attendance and engagement, graduation, student identification, IEAC. **Thursday 8:30AM** General session, Stories from the Field, Chronic

Absence, Student Identification, Student attendance and graduation. **Friday** Consider other service agencies – RSIC, JOBA, lesson plans, MOU. **Saturday** – Youth GONA Safe and respectful learning, Generosity, coincide with powwow

Kyle Ethelbah addressed his concern in wondering about pipelines program for higher ed, being in Southern Nevada he would like to see more outreach for local Nevada Tribes. Jason Molino shared NVHEALTHFORCE.ORG as a pipeline for students, future students or adults looking for or continuing paths with the health sector. This website includes a test to have a general outline of career path for that profession. There are many resources for Native Americans or anyone in Nevada. Emily Underwood sees an uptake in Native American fee waiver application in students apply and using the program and building program of area of need for retention. The group agreed on connecting and working on this important topic and possibly having a workshop at the Indian Education Summit.

VIII. Future IEAC Meeting Dates, Frequency and Times.

Next meeting Dates - Tuesday February 3 at 1PM

March 25th 9AM (Indian Education Summit)

July 9th at 1:00 PM

October 15th at 2:00 PM

IX. Final Public Comment

Kari Emm added an NSHE is having a listening session to increase tuition and encouraging everyone to listen in.

Ritchie Savage is renting out a planetarium and putting on current consultations and doing storytelling.

Sara Twiss and education staff are planning college tours, summits, conferences, and professional development training. In February the seal of biliteracy. WRPT and YPT will be creating a Paiute language test exam at Yerington High school can earn that seal of biliteracy on their high school diploma. Sara is currently still working on MOU agreements and getting it officially passed by WRPT council and strengthen their relationship with the school districts. Sara would also like a list of Walker River Paiute Tribe graduates.

Fawn Hunter has GONA and their next trip will be to Gathering of Nations in April with a visit to four schools. This year's Paiute language bowl will likely be on May 1st.

X. Adjournment by Fawn Hunter at 2:46 PM