

Nevada Department of Native American Affairs

Stacey Montooth
Executive Director



Joe Lombardo
Governor

5500 Snyder Ave, Building #3 Carson City, NV 89701

Indian Education Advisory Committee (IEAC)

Informal Meeting Minutes 7/09/2026

Teams

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		

Department of Native American Affairs (DNAA):

Stacey Montooth, Executive Director

Dr. Arlie Stops, Nevada Indian Commission

Janet Davis, Management Analyst

Kadie Zeller, Management Analyst

Kaitlynn Romero, Program Officer

Lori Arrive, Office Manager

Savena Rogers, Program Officer

Other Attendees:

Jason Molino, Tribal Liaison, Nevada Division of Public and Behavior Health (NDPBH)

Fran Maldonado, ESSA Program, NDE

Vanessa Justice, Tribal Liaison, Division of Social Service

Emily Underwood, Manager Office of Indigenous relations, UNR

Russell Thomas, American Indian Alliance, UNLV

Lance Dick, Council Member, Shoshone Paiute Tribes

M-Ache Martinez, NYCP Program, NDE

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Jose Sanchez, Higher Education Coordinator, Reno Sparks Indian Colony

Roll by Taken by Chair Hunter

Quorum not met, established at 1:08 PM

MEETING WAS HELD FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION SHARING, HOWEVER NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON ANY VOTING ITEMS

- I. **Invocation by Stacey Montooth**
- II. **Welcome by Fawn Hunter, Introductions by all attendees**
- III. **Initial Public Comment - None**
- IV. **Approval of Meeting Minutes from March 25 – NO ACTION TAKEN**
- V. **Introduction of Kadie Zeller, DNAA Point of Contact for IEAC – Stacey Montooth**
Stacey introduced Kadie Zeller, DNAA's new Management Analyst staff. Kadie will be taking over the functions and management of the IEAC meetings and related tasks. Kadie, located in Fallon, is a member of the Choctaw Nation and descendent of the people of Kiribati. She has over a decade of combined experience in education, advocacy, public health, and nonprofit management.
- VI. **Follow up on IEAC individual responsibilities and subject areas – NO ACTION TAKEN, committee members only shared updates**
 - a. Native American Fee Waiver – Kari Emm
 - i. Kari shared that the Fee Waiver breakout session at the Indian Education Conference was successful and had a lot of good back about the excitement surrounding the importance of having a higher education fee waiver.
 - b. MOU's and FERPA Based Information Sharing Arrangements – Sara Twiss

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- i. Sara shared that the MOU breakout session at the Indian Education Conference was successful. As a result of this, she has been working on MOU agreement documents with the Yerington Paiute Tribe for the Lyon County School District schools. She mentioned she has a large resource of MOU agreement templates that can be adapted for many agencies to collaborate with tribes regarding student education needs, including Juvenile Court Systems and beyond.
- c. Improving Survey Tools for Better Data – Lance West: No updates

VII. **Final Public Comments**

- a. Fawn Hunter:
 - i. Fawn shared that Washoe tribal students are on college tours and continuing summer cultural classes. They also have a Back to School Event planned on 8/1 for students to pick up back packs and school supplies. WCSD will also be participating in Natchez' Back to School Night, along with a few others.
 - ii. Fawn shared that the Discover Your Path Native Camp in Lake Tahoe has 107 participants registered, and they are still taking applications and have the availability to help with registration fees. Once registration hits 130, they will close it.
- b. Sara Twiss
 - i. Sara share that they have 11 students at the National Unity Conference in Oklahoma with 2 chaperones. She also shared that the Tribal Library program is expanding to access to technology, education basics, and cultural activities for students.
 - ii. Sara shared that they are making a greater effort to focus on mental health training and assistance especially to help support students.

VIII. **Adjournment by Fawn Hunter at 2:08 PM**

VIII. **Future IEAC Meeting Dates, Frequency and Times.**

Next meeting Dates - October 15th at 2:00 PM