March 24, 2016

## TRIBAL EDUCATION CODES

DAWN STURDEVANT BAUM, SENIOR ATTORNEY

## **ACADEMICS**

- Early Childhood. Rosebud Sioux Tribe enacted a separate code on early childhood focused on coordination of services across programs and ages, developing a centralized database, creating an Advisory Committee, encouraging development of curricula, standards, and assessments for tribal language and culture and literacy, and parental involvement.
- Rosebud Sioux Tribe: TED Director tasked with developing tribal curriculum and tribal education standards and convening meetings of educators and stakeholders. School boards to include TED in processes for reviewing curriculum, standards, policies, and programs.
- Oglala Sioux Tribe: a single reservation-wide accountability system is established, tribal accreditation authorized.
- \* Stand Rock Sioux Tribe: HEW Committee shall establish and promote tribal education standards for approval by the Tribal Council through recommendations by the Education Department. HEW Comm to establish annual reporting system on state of education. Code also addresses home schooling.
- Navajo: local schools shall insure special education services are provided.

#### DISCIPLINE/TRUANCY/DETENTION CENTERS

- Cross-over with truancy and juvenile justice. Sault Sainte Marie Tribal Community requires enrollment and attendance for reservation families. Oglala Sioux Tribe requires school attendance, local school boards shall establish truancy program. Standing Rock has specific definitions of attendance with some exemptions.
- Who will handle education in juvenile detention centers?
- Indian Affairs proposed model Indian juvenile code. http://www.bia.gov/cs/groups/xojs/documents/document/idc1-033097.pdf

#### **GOVERNANCE**

- Rosebud Sioux Tribe—The Tribe exercising its authority does not diminish federal trust responsibility. Tribal Council governs the Tribal Education Department and employs TED Director. Tribal Council to require regular reporting by TED, approve TED budget, and establish needed Advisory Committees. Role of TED Director includes over sight of TED's functions and over compliance by local schools with the Code, and to establish a data system, making onsite assessment visits to local schools, act as a liaison to the State. Tribal Council may charter educational programs and schools.
- Oglala Sioux Tribe: Education committee of the Tribal Council has been delegated authority to consider educational issues and recommend legislation. TEA Dir. to ensure technical assistance and advice provided to all educational entities. TEA to set up teacher certification and licensing program and establish an AYP definition.
- Standing Rock: Tribal Council may establish local schools and shall actively promote local regulatory responsibility. Tribal Council may delegate to the Health, Education, and Welfare Committee. Code creates TED with a Director. TED provides leadership in improving education, provides technical assistance, develops rules, policies, laws, and regulations, coordinate services and negotiate cooperative agreements, develop standards, offer scholarships.

#### GOVERNANCE, CONT'D.

- Hopi: Hopi Board of Education consists of one member for each local school board. Brd of Ed sets reservation wide academic standards, certifies local school boards. Appeals of Bd of Ed's determinations go to the Hopi Tribal Court. Private schools may be tribally sanctioned and participate in Hopi Board of Education.
- \* Muscogee Creek Nation: Principal Chief authorized to execute JOM contracts. Administration of JOM program located in the Division of Human Development, Office of the Johnson-O'Malley Program. Scholarship program for College of the Muscogee Nation established. Code establishes local school board for Eufaula Boarding School—board members appointed by the Principal Chief for three year terms. Board establishes policies for the school and monitors school operations, ensuring due process for employees, ratifying school financial plan, setting policy for development of standards, finance, personnel, student rights, reporting, and other policies and standards as needed. Creek National Council may dissolve or reconstitute the Board by enacting a law any time. School board minutes to be transmitted to the National Council. Principal Chief has sole power to enter into contracts and shall have review over school's records, recommendations, resolutions, etc. (College of Muscogee Nation has more authority to self-govern).
- Navajo Nation: Board of Education oversees operation of all schools, can assume control of local schools under certain conditions. Reports to Education Committee of Navajo Nation Council. Can employ staff, solicit funds. Board carries out responsibilities through the Department of Dine Education.

### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

- Rosebud: Educators to maintain certification, be evaluated annually. TED to apply Indian preference for its staff, consultants, and contractors. Schools to apply Indian preference. TED to report on Indian preference compliance.
- Oglala Sioux Tribe: Local school board will establish a Code of Ethics for personnel employed in the school system. Local school board will establish personnel grievance procedures based on due process and in accordance with regulations from the OSTEA. Local school board will develop and disseminate a personnel evaluation process. Local school board will employ teachers who have a minimum of three semester hours of Lakota Language or Culture. Governing board of each educational agency shall require background investigations that complies with Family Violence and Protection Act. TEA Director to hire or contract for such personnel as required. TEA will establish Code of Ethics for its staff.
- \* Hopi: Local school boards appoint and discharge local school staff.
- Creek: Post-graduate education and scholarship fund used to pay for prep courses and various examinations including National Board Certification for teachers, is administered by the Nation's District Court.

# FINANCE

- Oglala Sioux Tribe: Local school board will develop, document, and implement a fiscal and accounting process to meet the fiscal accountability expectations of the school system, funding agencies, and other resources. Local school system shall conduct annual audit of all funds, submitting to Oglala Sioux Tribal Education Agency following local review within 90 days following end of fiscal term. Student fundraising covered by the Code.
- Hopi: Local school boards review and approve local school financial plan.
- Creek: Code focuses on standards and administration of educational funding to students (application requirements, etc), Board for Eufaula Boarding School ratifies school's financial plan.
- Standing Rock: HEW Committee to approve/disapprove appropriations and budgets for Education Department with final approval from Tribal Council.

#### NATIVE LANGUAGE, HISTORY, AND CULTURE

- \* Rosebud: Tribal curriculum to include tribal government, and tribal-state and tribal-federal relationships, Rosebud Lakota language and culture for all grade levels. Also health and nutrition, parenting and family life, tribal and American economics, reservation lands, natural resources, community environments.
- Oglala: Each school board to develop Lakota culture program, minimum of 250 minutes/week in language or culture. Local school board will require teachers to have had instruction in Lakota culture and obtain a certification.
- Standing Rock: TED to develop standards including Dakota/Lakota language, procedures are set by the code.
- Navajo: instruction in Navajo language shall be made available for all grade levels.

## **EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PROGRAMS**

Oglala Sioux Tribe: transportation, equipment, food service, school nurses in the hands of the local school board to provide. BIA Facilities Management Information System to be updated at the local level. Local school board to provide staff and resources for facilities and maintenance.

# CONTACT INFO

- Dawn Sturdevant Baum
- × 202-208-6384
- Dawn.Baum@sol.doi.g ov