



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Indian Education

BIE Advisory Board for Exceptional Children

Current Board Members for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2022-2023

| | Name, Board Position & Location | Representing the Category for: | Term |
|----|---|---|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Norman Shawanokasic , Chairperson Wisconsin | Representatives of Tribes or Tribal Organizations | 07/09/2020 to 07/09/2023 |
| 2 | Dr. Harvey Rude, Ed.D. , Vice-Chair Colorado | Service Providers to Children with Disabilities | 07/09/2020 to 07/09/2023 |
| 3 | Leslie Finnearty , Secretary North Dakota | Teachers of Children with Disabilities | 02/10/2022 to 02/10/2025 |
| 4 | Dr. Robin Blitz, M.D. , Board Member Arizona | Service Providers to Children with Disabilities | 07/09/2020 to 07/09/2023 |
| 5 | Monica Cleveland. , Board Member Arizona | Indian parents or guardians of children with disabilities | 03/17/2023 to 03/17/2026 |
| 6 | Dr. Perry Graves, Ed.D. , Board Member Kansas | Teachers of Children with Disabilities | 01/14/2021 to 01/14/2024 |
| 7 | Rachel Harrison , Board Member Oklahoma | Teachers of Children with Disabilities | 04/18/2023 to 04/18/2026 |
| 8 | Wendy Kroupa , Board Member South Dakota | Local Education Officials | 04/18/2023 to 04/18/2026 |
| 9 | Gretchen Lehmann , Board Member North Dakota | Service Providers to Children with Disabilities | 02/10/2022 to 02/10/2025 |
| 10 | Pilar Peltier , Board Member Oregon | Bureau employee concerned with the education of children with disabilities. | 02/10/2022 to 02/10/2025 |
| 11 | Teryl Running Horse , Board Member South Dakota | Indian Persons with Disabilities | 01/14/2021 to 01/14/2024 |
| 12 | Brian Wagner , Board Member South Dakota | Representatives of Tribes or Tribal Organizations | 11/04/2022 to 11/04/2025 |
| 13 | Gretchen Wendell , Board Member South Dakota | Local Education Officials | 02/10/2022 to 02/10/2025 |

The roster was updated on 4/19/2023. Currently, there are two vacant positions. The BIE is advertising to fill the vacant positions. The advertisement closing date is 4/24/23.

- According to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the BIE must establish and maintain an advisory panel for the purpose of providing policy guidance with respect to special education and related services for children with disabilities in the State. The Advisory Panel's role is to advise the Secretary of the Interior with regard, to serving students with disabilities through Part B of IDEA. P.L.108-446, Sec. 611(a)(6), Sec.612(a)(21)(A).
- The Designated Federal Officer (DFO) is an Education Specialist, BIE, Division of Performance and Accountability, who is a full-time Federal employee appointed in accordance with Agency procedures. Questions about the BIE Advisory Board can be directed to Jennifer Davis, DFO at Jennifer.Davis@bie.edu or phone (202) 860-7845.