Dear Tribal Leader:

The Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) is developing a five-year Strategic Direction which encompasses the actions the BIE is going to take to fulfill its mission and realize its vision. This 2024-2029 Strategic Direction is scheduled for release in June 2024. Your input is especially valuable to determine which priorities are most critical to strategically move the BIE ahead for the next five years. To ensure widespread and inclusive input into the Strategic Direction, from October 2023 to March 2024, the BIE will host a number of listening sessions and Tribal consultations to gather input from Tribal leaders and other Tribal educational partners about:

- What Strategies are most important for moving BIE forward for the next five years?
- What Milestones are most important for moving BIE forward for the next five years?
- How satisfied are you with the BIE Vision?
- How satisfied are you with the BIE Mission?
- How satisfied are you with the BIE Core Values?

To reach a broad audience of educational partners, the listening sessions will be held in conjunction with the 54th Annual National Indian Education Association (NIEA) Convention & Trade Show in October 2023 and the 80th Annual National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Convention & Marketplace in November 2023. During and following the listening sessions, an online questionnaire will be open to provide feedback through December 17, 2023. This feedback will be used to help develop a draft of the Strategic Direction. The draft Strategic Direction will then be brought to six Tribal consultations across the country and virtually in the spring for further input and refinement.

The BIE thanks you in advance and looks forward to speaking with you at the NIEA listening session scheduled at the following date, time, and location:

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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME (Local Time)</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, October 18, 2023</td>
<td>10 a.m. – 12 p.m. (MDT)</td>
<td>National Indian Education Association Convention Ruidoso Room Albuquerque Convention Center 401 2nd Street, NW Albuquerque, NM  87102</td>
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Additional details will also be posted on the BIE website at www.bie.edu/landing-page/consultations-initiatives.

To collect your feedback, the link to the online questionnaire is https://forms.office.com/g/KLPMEYwh8k, and a copy of the questionnaire is attached. The questionnaire will be open for input through December 17, 2023. In addition, please feel free to submit any written comments via email to consultation@bia.gov or by mail to Dr. Wendy Cooley, 1849 C Street NW, MIB-3610 Washington, DC 20240 by December 17, 2023.

If you have any questions regarding the listening session, please contact Dr. Wendy Cooley at wendy.cooley@bie.edu.

Sincerely,

TONY DEARMAN
Tony L. Dearman
Director

Cc:
Margo DeLaune, Associate Deputy Director, Division of Performance and Accountability
Margo DeLaune, Acting Chief Academic Officer
Sharon Pinto, Associate Deputy Bureau Director, School Operations
Hankie Ortiz, Associate Deputy Director – Bureau Operated Schools
Cherie Poitra, Associate Deputy Director – Tribally Controlled Schools
Emily Arviso, Associate Deputy Director – Navajo Schools