



Wisconsin Indian Education Association ~ N5448 Broder Road ~ Shawano ~ WI 54166

**MONTHLY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**October 16, 2020**  
**Teleconference**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**Call to Order:** 9:11 by Brian Jackson

**Welcome:** Brian put down tobacco, said his morning prayers for us and smudged this morning

**Roll Call:**

Region	Board Member: Term Expires 2020	Board Member: Term Expires 2021
Northwest	✓ Brian Jackson, President	<input type="checkbox"/> Katrina Werchouski
Southeast	<input type="checkbox"/> Rebecca Comfort, Vice President	✓ Celeste Clark
Central	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓ Dr. Jolene Bowman
Northeast	✓ Doreen Wawronowicz	✓ Susan Crazy Thunder
West	✓ Brittany LeMere	<input type="checkbox"/>
South	✓ Rachel Byington	✓ Verna Comfort
East	✓ Virginia Nuske, Treasurer	✓ Shannon Chapman, Secretary

Region	Alternate Board Members: Term Expires 2020
Northwest	<input type="checkbox"/> William White <input type="checkbox"/> Cassie Brown <input type="checkbox"/> Anna DeMers
Southeast	<input type="checkbox"/> Sommer Drake <input type="checkbox"/> Audra Williams <input type="checkbox"/> James Flores
Central	<input type="checkbox"/> Barb Munson <input type="checkbox"/> Roberta Moede-Carrington <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Nicole Bowman <input type="checkbox"/> Lucille Burr <input type="checkbox"/> Iris Carufel
Northeast	<input type="checkbox"/> Pat Takamine <input type="checkbox"/> Donald Keeble
West	<input type="checkbox"/> Karie Decorah <input type="checkbox"/> Savannah Shegonee
South	<input type="checkbox"/> Tim Fish
East	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Julie Schultz <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Crystal Lepscier
<b>Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction</b>	
Liaisons	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David O'Connor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eva Kubinski



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**Roll Call continued:**

Excused: Rebecca Comfort

Guests:

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**Approval of Agenda**

Motion: Approve the agenda for 10/16/2020 made by Virginia Nuske

2nd: Doreen Wawronowicz

Discussion:

- Pass
- Fail
- Abstentions:

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve the meeting minutes for 9/18/2020 made by: Virginia Nuske

2nd: Celeste Clark

Discussion:

- Pass
- Fail
- Abstentions:

**President's Report**

- 1) Brian shared that he is going through some health battles; he has been taking some things off his plate and reprioritizing personally. Stepped off the NIEA board. Wants to keep the WIEA board informed; has talked with the officers and Rebecca as to her role.
- 2) Congratulations to Jason Dropik for his NIEA Presidency, as well as Jolene and Brandon for their board membership!
- 3) PR/Media: Brandon will continue on for a month by month contract to keep PR moving forward.

Motion to approve the President's report made by: Virginia Nuske

2nd: Verna Comfort

Discussion:

- Pass
- Fail
- Abstentions:

**Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer's report, as presented by Virginia Nuske

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report made by: Celeste Clark

2nd: Doreen Wawronowicz

Discussion:

- Pass
- Fail
- Abstentions: Virginia Nuske



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## **2021 Conference Update**

No Action

1. Virtual Conference proposal - David shared the structure of the YMCA Racial Justice Summit:
  - a. 3 day span: 9-11 and 2-4 each day
  - b. Could have this similar structure, with a virtual awards event added in.
2. Other options are monthly workshop-type events (January through May, as an example); pre-recorded webinars; break up each month into a theme
3. Costs: In-person is more costly; the DPI Summer Institute ranged from 250-350; virtual was \$75 because certain expenses were not incurred.
4. Question: How would this work in terms of fundraising, as this has always been our biggest fundraiser? Pay for attending the conference, receive a passcode to access the events.
5. Question: How would the annual business meeting fit in? We could fit it between the a.m. and p.m. session.
6. We are going to need board support: The bylaws state that the regions take turns hosting; but right now we may need to take an alternate route with full board involvement. Proposal to have each WIEA region take a different aspect of the conference.
7. NIEA format: Many sessions were pre-recorded, the schedule was set up so that they were shared at certain times. The live sessions felt more engaging and connected. The time zones were a challenge to content with.
8. Fundraising: Can extend the fundraising beyond the block of 3 days; create a Fundraising Campaign
9. Question: Will the committee be meeting again; how will it move forward? The board will need to meet on this specifically and sooner than our next monthly meeting.
10. David offered his assistance
11. Rachel offered her assistance - their programming is also virtual

**Motion to have a virtual 2021 WIEA conference made by: Virginia Nuske**

**2nd: Rachel Byington**

**Discussion:**

- Pass**
- Fail**
- Abstentions:**

## **Wisconsin Virtual Academy (WVA) insensitive art assignment - Celeste Clark**

Celeste shared an email from JoAnn Ninham, in which JoAnn requested that Celeste bring an issue to the attention of WIEA and NIEA. The concern is that the Wisconsin Virtual Academy (WVA) had an insensitive art assignment utilizing a piece of art depicting Indians and pilgrims. *"It was brought to their attention by a parent whose child was upset by the assignment. Seems Wisconsin charter and virtual schools are exempted from Act 31. David O'Connor is aware of the situation, he provided the information about the exemption. Our question would be how do we get that exemption changed if virtual schools are going to be providing services to public school students. WVA is addressing the concern, they suspended the use of the assignment and sent an apology out to the students/families."*

David shared that he has had educators reach out to him and he shared resources to assist them (for example, the teacher who liked to teach the Thanksgiving unit; she came back to him upset with herself that she was teaching the content inaccurately for years; he helped her to think through her forward planning). Teachers want to do the right thing, but they lack content. Need to be given the proper tools and information.

Brian proposed to Celeste a simple letter from the board, stating our concern and offering support.



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Discussion: We should look at including charter schools in our Act 31 language.

### **Nicolet Technical College Lumina Project - Brandon Thoms & Susan Crazy Thunder**

No Action - Discussion Only

Project is called "Many Ways of Knowing: American Indian Cultural Competencies for Community College and Career Pathways." Within the project themselves, they call themselves The Nation - and The Nation is comprised of the four clans.

1. Project moving along at a great pace. Held their 6th convening recently. The 4 competencies are solidified (history, governance, language, culture); a big milestone is that they are moving into the assessment area.
  - a. Tree ring model, with student at the center of the ring, and experiences laid out into the different rings
2. Brandon outlined the clan gatherings that they have had to date.
3. Professional Development: November 6th - Ricky White (formerly from White Earth COLA)

### **Special Education - Eva Kubinski**

Rule changes: language in the rule is causing inappropriate identification because of racial, ethnic and other issues; trying to make them more culturally responsive. Areas that are being updated - new language within:

1. Vision impairments (evaluation for orientation and mobility)
2. Emotional-behavioral Disabilities
3. Specific Learning Disabilities

Eva will send specifics to Shannon (to share with board) regarding specific language around these changes. She shared the legislative process of approval - they are in the middle of the process at this time for the rule changes.

Eva will share resources for parents to connect with to improve communications between schools and families.

### **WIEA Bylaws - Committee Structure - Rebecca**

Discussion on Bylaw revisions:

1. Conflict resolution process: Add a section/process as to how to bring concerns forward in a good way
2. Conference planning: Add board to conference planning section
3. Look at filling the board vacant spots with alternates
  - a. Discussed how to diversify board membership
  - b. Discussed the expectations of board membership for new board members who come on board; possibly a video on the website sharing the benefits of board membership - Brandon will put together a concept of some sort to recruit new board members

### **Old Business**

No old business

### **New Business**

No new business



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**Regional Reports**

Region	Regional Reports
Northwest	
Southeast	
Central	
Northeast	
West	
South	Rachel: Native Pathways Forum is coming up - please share with anyone that you think should attend. Registration is closing soon.
East	Shannon: Shawano School District posted a position for a teacher, using Title VI funds and Title IV funds. Instructional Coach: Title VI Indian Education and Gifted and Talented.

**Upcoming WIEA activities:**

**Regular board mtg: Friday, November 20, 2020**

**Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn: Doreen Wawronwicz

2nd: Celeste Clark

Discussion:

- Pass
- Fail
- Abstentions: