



Council of the Cherokee Nation

Cherokee Nation Complex
17675 S. Muskogee Ave.
Tahlequah, OK 74464

Meeting Minutes - Final EDUCATION COMMITTEE

David Walkingstick, Chair

Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain

Phone: 1-800-995-9465,

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Monday, June 19, 2017

3:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Walkingstick called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

INVOCATION

Councilor Lay gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present 14 - Janees Taylor; Harley Buzzard; Frankie Hargis ; Don Garvin; Jack D. Baker; Joe Byrd; Victoria Vazquez; Rex Jordan; Wanda Hatfield; Buel Anglen; Bryan Warner ; Dick Lay; David Walkingstick and Keith Austin

Late Arrival 3 - David Thornton, Sr. ; Curtis Snell and Shawn Crittenden

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Baker made a motion to approve the May 15th regular session minutes. Councilor Hargis seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS:

Talking Leaves Job Corp/Career Services/Voc. Ed - Diane Kelley

Ms. Kelley reported on the four-part review at the Talking Leaves Center. They are working with CNB to get referrals and develop training in food service. They are working on with our Education Department on a possible hospitality scholarship. A job fair will be held in Ramona tomorrow for the casino and a job fair for Schwan's in Stilwell. She provided an update on the apprenticeship training program and the fire program. She offered to answer questions from the report. Chair Walkingstick inquired how we assist with jobs in Adair County. He also mentioned a contact with Simmons and possible business partnership.

Executive Director's Report - Ron Etheridge

Mr. Etheridge announced the Language Conference is currently being held at Heritage Elementary. He provided an update on the Remember the Removal Riders and announced the welcome back event is this Thursday. He provided a list for the

Trail of Tears Awards of Excellence. Camp Cherokee at Briggs next week has 247 currently signed up and there are 182 enrolled at the Heart of the Hills. July 12th is the deadline for the Miss Cherokee, Jr. Miss Cherokee and ambassador competitions. The Unity Conference is July 5th. The Youth Council will be attending the Council meeting this evening. Dr. Charles Gourd is the new Executive Director at the Heritage Center. He provided an update on the college scholarships including sticking to the deadline. Ms. Pigeon gave an update on the number of applications submitted to date. Chair Walkingstick inquired about the projected increase in funding for the scholarships this year. Councilor Baker commented on his time with the Remember the Removal Riders this year. Councilor Thornton requested a breakout of the scholarships by district. Councilor Taylor inquired if they track the scholarship recipients in regard to degrees acquired and dropouts. Councilor Anglen gave appreciation for the Education Department being represented at his recently held community meeting. Chair Walkingstick inquired how much of the scholarships are funded by our Motor Fuels compact. Councilor Buzzard inquired what is the policy for dropouts. Mr. Etheridge commented they are reviewing increasing the minimum GPA requirement for the scholarships.

Head Start - Verna Thompson

Mr. Etheridge offered to answer questions for Ms. Thompson.

Sequoyah High School - Leroy Qualls

Mr. Qualls reported on the summer activities and camps. This Thursday they will have a student sign to play basketball with NSU. This makes a total of eight students sign to play D1 ball next year. They have ninety-four incoming freshmen. He provided an update on the Immersion School grant program which allows the kids to visit college school campuses. Some of the summer cultural activities included picking blackberries and strawberries, catching crawdads, making jam, canning tomatoes, pottery and basket making. He announced they have teachers going to the STEM conference. Mr. Qualls touched on Career Tech and those opportunities. Councilor Buzzard requested further information on the Career Tech programs.

OLD BUSINESS

None pending.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **TMP-353** DISCUSSION: CHEROKEE IMMERSION PROGRAM

Chair Walkingstick introduced Dr. Desa Dawson as President of the American Counsel of Teaching Foreign Language and the Director over Rural Languages with the State Department of Education. Ms. Dawson provided a presentation on some of the best practices in regard to immersion schools.

Following the presentation Chair Walkingstick requested our Education Department and our Immersion Principal meet with Dr. Dawson.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Taylor moved to adjourn. Councilor Warner seconded the motion.
The motion carried at 4:16 p.m.**

STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Holly Davis</i>	<i>Bruce Davis</i>	<i>Diane Kelley</i>
<i>Jennifer Pigeon</i>	<i>Ron Etheridge</i>	<i>John Paden</i>
<i>Leroy Qualls</i>	<i>Canaan Duncan</i>	<i>Tyler Thomas</i>
<i>Courtney Jordan</i>	<i>Howard Paden</i>	<i>Ryan Mackey</i>
<i>Nikki Limore</i>		

VISITORS PRESENT:

Dianne Barker Harrold *Teddy Snell*