



# Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

## Meeting Minutes - Final EDUCATION COMMITTEE

*Candessa Tehee, Chair*

*Recording Secretary, Shelli Brittain Coke  
Phone: 1-800-995-9465,  
E-mail: council-public@cherokee.org*

---

Monday, September 16, 2024

3:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

---

### CALL TO ORDER

**Chair Tehee called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.**

### INVOCATION

**Co-Chair Callison gave the invocation.**

### ROLL CALL

**Present** 16 - Mike Dobbins; E. O. "JR." Smith; Joshua Sam; Mike Shambaugh; Melvina Shotpouch; Johnny Kidwell ; Candessa Tehee; Danny Callison; Sasha Blackfox-Qualls; Lisa Hall; Daryl Legg; Codey Poindexter; Dora Patzkowski; Joe Deere; Kevin Easley Jr. and Julia Coates

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Councilor Sam moved to approve. Councilor Dobbins seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

### REPORTS:

Vocational Programs/Talking Leaves Job Corp/Career Services - Diane Kelley

*Ms. Kelley reported the Job Corp is celebrating its 60th National anniversary and 46th tribal anniversary. She announced two of the career readiness classrooms are ready, provided an update on the fiber optic program and stated the Culinary students are on standby to go cook for the forest fire fighters in California. The GED graduation is next Tuesday. She offered to answer questions from the report.*

Executive Director's Report - Mark Vance

*Mr. Vance announced the College Resource Fair will be held October 31st, JOM at Sequah's Cabin on September 27th, the applications are now open for the Remember the Removal Bike Ride. The numbers are up for At Large participants attending Camp Cherokee. He offered to answer any questions. Councilor Callison gave appreciation for the Cherokee Nation add on to the JOM student funds.*

Head Start - Verna Thompson

*Ms. Thompson announced the Fall Festival and Head Start National Day Parade will be on October 3rd. She reported on the healthy teacher program, their enrollment numbers and staff openings. She offered to answer any questions.*

Sequoyah High School - Terry Heustis

*Mr. Heustis announced homecoming is this week, they will have their first ever homecoming parade, and a bonfire will be held on Thursday evening. They will host the ORES Championship. He commented on the JOM add-on and the Bureau of Indian Education Army Cadets presentation. He provided an update on the athletic program then offered to answer any questions.*

OLD BUSINESS

*None pending.*

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. [24-092](#) A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE SEQUOYAH SCHOOLS \$65 MILLION CAPITAL PLAN FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT  
**Councilor Blackfox-Qualls moved to approve the revised version provided. Councilor Shambaugh seconded the motion. Councilor Deere requested to be added as a sponsor. The motion to approve carried.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

**Councilor Deere moved to adjourn. Councilor Dobbins seconded the motion. The motion carried at 3:20 p.m.**

STAFF PRESENT:

<i>Diane Kelley</i>	<i>Mark Vance</i>	<i>Terry Heustis</i>
<i>Canaan Duncan</i>	<i>Corey Bunch</i>	<i>Shella Bowlin</i>
<i>Brooke Neff</i>	<i>Verna Thompson</i>	

VISITORS PRESENT:

<i>John Asbill</i>	<i>John Young</i>	<i>Teddy Snell</i>
<i>Ollie Starr</i>		