



# Council of the Cherokee Nation

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

## Meeting Minutes - Final EDUCATION COMMITTEE

*Shawn Crittenden, Chair*

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

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Monday, September 13, 2021

3:00 PM

Tribal Council Offices

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### CALL TO ORDER

**Chair Crittenden called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.**

### INVOCATION

**Councilor Shotpouch gave the invocation.**

### ROLL CALL

*Councilors Callison, Dobbins, Kidwell, Sam, Shambaugh, Shotpouch, Smith, Tehee and Vazquez confirmed their membership to this committee.*

**Present** 17 - Joe Deere; Julia Coates; Keith Austin; Dora Patzkowski; Daryl Legg; Rex Jordan; Wes Nofire; Shawn Crittenden; Candessa Tehee; Mike Dobbins; E. O. "JR." Smith; Joshua Sam; Mike Shambaugh; Melvina Shotpouch; Victoria Vazquez; Danny Callison and Johnny Kidwell

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Councilor Dobbins made a motion to approve the August minutes as submitted. Councilor Vazquez seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

### REPORTS:

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

*Ms. Kelley reported the GED graduation would be virtual. They are promoting but need help recruiting for the childcare program. She offered to answer questions from the report. Councilor Legg inquired about stipend amounts for the programs. Councilor Tehee inquired about the surgical tech program graduates being placed outside of our health system.*

Executive Director's Report - Corey Bunch

*Mr. Bunch reported they have worked with the Chief's office to help coordinate and deliver PPE products to schools. He stated he would contact the Council by email if they wish to participate. He offered to answer questions from the report provided.*

*Councilor Vazquez inquired about the partnership with Sparton School of Aeronautics. Chair Crittenden requested clarification if the PPE were being delivered to only those schools with a mask mandate or if it would be all schools in the reservation.*

Sequoyah High School - Corey Bunch

*Councilor Tehee inquired about the search for the Superintendent position at Sequoyah High School. Councilor Coates inquired about mask mandates at the school, COVID detection rates, COVID testing and athletics this school year. Councilor Dobbins inquired about the number of Sequoyah football players this year and requested an update on the eligibility of those who transferred back. Councilor Dobbins inquired about comparison of this year versus 2019.*

Head Start - Verna Thompson

*Ms. Thompson offered to answer questions from the report provided. Councilor Shotpouch inquired about COVID within her program. Ms. Thompson announced a couple of initiatives recently started: perfect attendance for the staff and babies. She announced they are recruiting both staff and students.*

#### OLD BUSINESS

*None pending.*

#### NEW BUSINESS

*None pending.*

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### ADJOURNMENT

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

#### STAFF PRESENT:

*Taralee Montgomery  
Verna Thompson*

*Camerin Fite James  
Corey Bunch*

*Todd Enlow  
Diane Kelley*

#### VISITORS PRESENT:

*Teddy Snell*

*Tim Brown*