

Poard of Jublic Education

PO Box 200601 Helena, Montana 59620-0601 (406) 444-6576 www.bpe.mt.gov

BOARD MEMBERS

APPOINTED MEMBERS:

Tammy Lacey - Chair Fairfield

Madalyn Quinlan – Vice-Chair Helena

Renee Rasmussen Clancy

Anne Keith Bozeman

Susie Hedalen Townsend

Jane Lee Hamman Clancy

Tim Tharp Savage

Charles Fox, Student Rep. Helena

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS:

Clayton Christian, Commissioner of Higher Education

Elsie Arntzen, Superintendent of Public Instruction

Greg Gianforte, Governor

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

McCall Flynn

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education (MACIE) has adopted a position statement on American Indian Regalia Protections; and

WHEREAS, it is MACIE's goal to proactively inform and educate school district Board of Trustees, administrators, teachers, and staff who serve American Indian students, families, and communities within the state about the legal language protections that exist for Native regalia to be worn at public ceremonies such as graduation; and

WHEREAS, MACIE believes that many educators and school leaders find themselves underinformed and unprepared in regard to tribal sovereignty, culture, history, spirituality, and the traditional practices of wearing regalia to special events; and

WHEREAS, MACIE believes it is best to address these issues in a preventative manner in order to mitigate any and all unwanted and unnecessary situations from happening, and from continuing to happen, in order to better prepare educators and school leaders;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Montana Board of Public Education supports MACIE in their work to increase and improve awareness by informing and preparing educators in the area of legal protections of American Indian regalia and other issues mentioned above that are present in the intersection of school policies and Montana law.

RESOLVED BY THE MONTANA BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION ON JULY 14, 2022.

Tammy Lacey, Chairperson Board of Public Education