



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 Bureau of Indian Education
 1849 C Street NW, MIB-3610
 Washington, DC 20240

BIE Advisory Board for Exceptional Children

Cherokee Central Schools Central Office, 86 Elk Crossing Lane,
 Cherokee, North Carolina 28719,

In-Person & Online Meeting | September 25-27, 2024 | 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM (EDT)

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING: To meet the mandates of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEA) for Indian children with disabilities. To provide board members and the public, with information about various special education issues to improve special education and related services for children with disabilities within the BIE school system. The BIE advisory panel provides policy guidance with respect to special education and related services for children with disabilities in the State.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This meeting is being held under the provisions of the Public Law 108- 446 IDEA, Part B, Sec. 611(a)(6); Sec. 612(a)(21)(A); and is regulated by the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. 10

PUBLIC COMMENTS: The public is encouraged to provide recommendations to improve special education and related services for students with disabilities within the BIE school system. Comments can be sent to the Designated Federal Officer (DFO): Email: Jennifer.davis@bie.edu or U.S. Postal/Delivered to: Bureau of Indian Education, Attention: Jennifer Davis, DFO, 2600 N. Central Ave., Suite 800, Phoenix, AZ 85004. During the board meeting verbal comments can be made during public comment sessions, and written comments can be provided in the chat box.

MEETING REGISTRATION

This meeting is open to the public and can be accessed online. The Eastern Daylight Time zone (EDT) will be used for this entire meeting. The BIE Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for: **Wednesday, September 25, 2024, Thursday, September 26, 2024 and Friday, September 27, 2024**, each meeting starts at 8:00 AM and ends at 4:30 PM (EDT). Registration is required. Click on the link below to register in advance for this Zoom.Gov meeting:

<https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJltcOmhpj8vHS5iX6Kn98Xf9yubIQbJPnA>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. Register once to attend either meeting date.

JENNIFER L. DAVIS, DESIGNATED FEDERAL OFFICER (DFO) FOR THE BIE ADVISORY BOARD

JENNIFER.DAVIS@BIE.EDU | MOBILE PHONE: (202) 860-7845

THE DFO SERVES AS THE GOVERNMENT'S AGENT FOR ALL MATTERS RELATED TO THE BOARD'S ACTIVITIES.



DAY 1 - WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2024

This agenda is based on the Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) zone

- 8:00 - 8:03 AM** **Roll Call, New Business, Old Business**
- 8:30 - 8:45 AM** **Advisory Board Work** - Board members to dialogue on setting up/getting organized to work on the annual report. Board work will begin during the PM session.
- 8:45 - 8:55 AM** **Prepare to Tour School Campus** - Board members prepare to leave the meeting room to tour Cherokee Central School campus, K-12 programs.
Online Zoom access (video and audio) for the board meeting will be paused for 1.5 hours, to allow board members to tour the school campus.
- 9:00 - 10:30 AM** **Campus Tour: Cherokee Central Schools, K-12 grades** - Tour begins to visit the various campuses for grade levels K-12 programs.
- 10:30 - 10:45 PM** **BREAK**
- 10:45 - 11:45 PM** **BIE Director Office Updates**

Online Zoom access (video and audio) will resume for the board meeting.

Presenter Questions:

1. Total student enrollment data (pre and post-COVID).
2. Status of the BIE’s Strategic Plan.
3. Provide recommendations to the advisory Board to address regarding staffing shortages. Strategies to retain current staff?
4. How do the Board's priorities guide your work to improve outcomes for students with disabilities.

11:45 - 12:00 PM **Public Comment Session #1**

Public Comments can be provided verbally via webinar or in writing using the chat box.

Providing comments allows an opportunity for the public to provide comments to the Board. Comments should be related to topics regarding Indian students with disabilities within the BIE school system. The public can contribute their viewpoints on improvements or what is working in a school or within the BIE school system. **Guidelines for public comments:**

- Provide your first and last name, position title and the School/Organization you are representing.
- Limit your comments to three (3) minutes.
- Please respect confidentiality. Do not mention names of individuals (students or staff).



DAY 1 - WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2024

This agenda is based on the Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) zone

12:00 - 1:30 PM **Working Lunch** – *to protect the identities of special education students within the gallery, cameras will be turned off and the audio will remain on for participants to listen to the presentation about the Exceptional Student Services Program at Cherokee Central Schools.*

- **Cherokee Central Schools, Cherokee, North Carolina**
 - Dr. Elizabeth Younce, EdD, Director, Exceptional Student Services and board member for the BIE Advisory Board for Exceptional Children

Presenter questions:

1. Please provide an overview of your special education programs and related services.
2. What celebrations would you like to share with the Board?
3. What concerns or challenges would you like to share with the Board?

1:30 - 2:00 PM **Division of Performance and Accountability (DPA)/BIE Special Education Program | Ronald Worst, Education Program Specialist**

PRESENTER QUESTIONS:

1. Provide an update on the BIE Special Education Policy & Procedures Handbook

2:00 - 2:15 PM **Public Comment Session #2**
Review public comment guidelines on page 2 of the agenda.

2:15 - 2:30 PM **BREAK**

2:30 - 4:30 PM **Advisory Board Work Session**

- Finish any new business or old business.
- Begin working on the annual report.
- A 15-MINUTE BREAK WILL BE TAKEN AT 3:30 PM

4:30 PM **RECESS**



DAY 2 - THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2024

This agenda is based on the Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) zone

8:00 - 8:15 AM

Roll Call

8:15 - 11:45 AM

Advisory Board Work - Board

- Work on the annual report.
 - Goal is to finalize the annual report
 - Work on and finalize the next board meeting agenda and logistics
 - Break time: 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM (15 minutes each)

11:45 - 12:00 AM

Public Comment Session #3

Review public comment guidelines on page 2 of the agenda.

12:00 - 1:00 PM

Lunch

1:00 - 3:45 PM

Special Education Updates from Associate Deputy Director (ADD) Regions: Bureau Operated Schools (BOS), Navajo Region (BOS, TCS) and Tribally Controlled Schools (TCS):

- **1:00 - 1:45 PM – ADD BOS | Gloria Yepa and Katharine Ford, Education Specialists**
- **1:50 - 2:35 PM - ADD Navajo | Evangeline Bradley-Wilkinson, Education Specialist**
- **2:35 – 2:50 PM - BREAK (15 – minutes)**
- **2:55 - 3:40 PM – ADD TCS | Faith Rosetta, Supervisory Education Program Specialist and Joann Fields, Education Program Specialist**

Presenter Questions:

1. Describe the challenges and needs within the special education programs in the BIE-funded schools in your region.
2. Status of vacant positions in your region? (special education and related services)
3. What does your region/office/team do to address the known challenges? Please include anything related aspects of data collection, leadership development with building administrators, collaboration with others and communication used to support the schools and parents/families of students with disabilities.
4. Please share some of the planned activities for SY 2024-2025 in your region to support the special education program



DAY 2 - THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2024

This agenda is based on the Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) zone

3:45 - 4:00 PM

Public Comment Session #4

Review public comment guidelines on page 2 of the agenda.

4:00 PM

RECESS



DAY 3 - FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2024

This agenda is based on the Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) zone

8:00 - 8:15 AM **Roll Call, New Business, Old Business**

8:15 - 9:00 AM **Early Childhood Transition (IDEA - Part C)**

- **BIE Sovereignty in Indian Education Office/Early Childhood Programs, Family and Child Education (FACE)**
 - Klarissa Jensen, Eastern Region Early Childhood Education Director
- **Cherokee Elementary School**
 - Michele Galloway, Pre-K Teacher & Hope Center Director

Presenter Questions:

1. Please provide information on coordination of Part C services and transition to Part B.
2. How are the tribes providing those services?
3. What are the current challenges in the birth to early childhood transition?

9:00 - 10:00 AM **Panel Discussion: Secondary Transition**

- **Little Wound School, 438 Main St, Kyle, South Dakota**
 - Norma Brown Bull, Special Education Director
 - Justina One Horn, Transition Specialist
 - Jennifer Young Bull Bear, Social Worker
 - Tina Two Crow, Student Assistant
1. What transition supports do you provide for high school students with various disabilities to help them meet their post-secondary goals?
 2. What outside agencies have you developed relationships with and how have they provided resources/services for your children?
 3. What success stories do you have to share in secondary transition programming?
 4. Do you have anything to share regarding conservatorship?

10:00 – 10:15 AM **BREAK**



DAY 3 - FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2024

This agenda is based on the Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) zone

10:15 - 11:15 AM

Panel Discussion: Behavioral Challenges

- **Cherokee Central Schools, Cherokee, North Carolina**
 - Mariah Crow, Student Success Advocate
- **Little Wound School, 438 Main St, Kyle, South Dakota**
 - Norma Brown Bull, Special Education Director
 - Migan Inez, Instructional Service Director
 - Kiva Sam, School Psychologist
- **Turtle Mountain Community High School, Belcourt, North Dakota**
 - Danielle Sloan, Special Education Director
 - Bradley LaRocque, Principal

Presenter Questions:

1. Have you noticed an increase in students with challenging behaviors? If so, why?
 - a. What would support and training for the educational and support staff to address an influx of students with challenging behaviors look like?
 - b. How can the Associate Deputy Director (ADD), Education Program Administrators (EPA), Education Resource Centers (ERCs), and Division of Performance and Accountability (DPA) and the schools work together to address the influx of students with behavior challenges?
2. What behavioral strategies work well to address challenging behaviors?
3. What are your current challenges when trying to replace inappropriate behaviors with all students?

11:15 - 11:30 PM

Public Comment Session #5

Review public comment guidelines on page 2 of the agenda

11:30 - 12:30 PM

Lunch

12:30 - 4:30 PM

Advisory Board Work Session

- Work on the annual report and finalize before adjournment.
- Work on January 2025 meeting logistics, complete draft agenda, identify presenters with presenter questions.
- Break time: 2:00 PM, 3:30 PM (15 minutes each)

4:30 PM

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BIE ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERSHIP

2024-2025

NORMAN SHAWANOKASIC, CHAIRPERSON | TERM: 7/10/2024 TO 7/10/2026 | STATE: WISCONSIN
REPRESENTING CATEGORY: TRIBAL REPRESENTATIVES OR TRIBAL ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVES

PILAR PELTIER, VICE-CHAIRPERSON | TERM: 2/10/2022 TO 2/10/2025 | STATE: OREGON
REPRESENTING CATEGORY: BIA EMPLOYEES CONCERNED WITH THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

LEON K. REVAL, SECRETARY | TERM: 9/14/2023 TO 9/14/2026 | STATE: NEW MEXICO
REPRESENTING CATEGORY: INDIAN PARENTS OR GUARDIANS OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

DR. JANET SLOWMAN-CHEE, BOARD MEMBER | TERM: 9/14/2023 TO 9/14/2026 | STATE: ARIZONA
REPRESENTING CATEGORY: INDIAN PARENTS OR GUARDIANS OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

SPENCER CHURCHILL, BOARD MEMBER | TERM: 5/20/2023 TO 5/20/2026 | STATE: ARIZONA
REPRESENTING CATEGORY: STATE INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCILS

MONICA CLEVELAND, BOARD MEMBER | TERM: 3/17/2023 TO 3/17/2026 | STATE: ARIZONA
REPRESENTING CATEGORY: INDIAN PARENTS OR GUARDIANS OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

LESLIE FINNEARTY, BOARD MEMBER | TERM: 2/10/2022 TO 2/10/2025 | STATE: NORTH DAKOTA
REPRESENTING CATEGORY: TEACHERS OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

RACHEL HARRISON, BOARD MEMBER | TERM: 4/18/2023 TO 4/18/2026 | STATE: OKLAHOMA
REPRESENTING CATEGORY: TEACHERS OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

WENDY KROUPA, BOARD MEMBER | TERM: 4/18/2023 TO 4/18/2026 | STATE: SOUTH DAKOTA
REPRESENTING CATEGORY: LOCAL EDUCATION OFFICIALS

GRETCHEN LEHMANN, BOARD MEMBER | TERM: 2/10/2022 TO 2/10/2025 | STATE: NORTH DAKOTA
REPRESENTING CATEGORY: SERVICE PROVIDERS TO CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

MELANIE C. STAR, BOARD MEMBER | TERM: 5/20/2023 TO 5/20/2026 | STATE: ARIZONA
REPRESENTING CATEGORY: BIA EMPLOYEES CONCERNED WITH THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

BRIAN WAGNER, BOARD MEMBER | TERM: TERM: 11/4/2022 TO 11/4/2025 | STATE: SOUTH DAKOTA
REPRESENTING CATEGORY: TRIBAL REPRESENTATIVES OR TRIBAL ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVES



BIE ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERSHIP 2024-2025

GRETCHEN WENDELL, BOARD MEMBER | TERM: 2/10/2022 to 2/10/2025 | STATE: SOUTH DAKOTA
REPRESENTING CATEGORY: LOCAL EDUCATION OFFICIALS

DR. ELIZABETH YOUNCE, BOARD MEMBER | TERM: 9/14/2023 TO 9/14/2026 | STATE: NORTH CAROLINA
REPRESENTING CATEGORY: LOCAL EDUCATION OFFICIALS

JENNIFER L. DAVIS, DESIGNATED FEDERAL OFFICER (DFO)

FOR THE BIE ADVISORY BOARD FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

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BIE Website, Advisory Board section <https://www.bie.edu/landing-page/special-education>

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