



House Education Policy Committee American Indian Education Overview

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Ten Minnesota Commitments to Equity

1. Prioritize equity.
2. Start from within.
3. Measure what matters.
4. Go local.
5. Follow the money.
6. Start early.
7. Monitor implementation of standards.
8. Value people.
9. Improve conditions for learning.
10. Give students options.



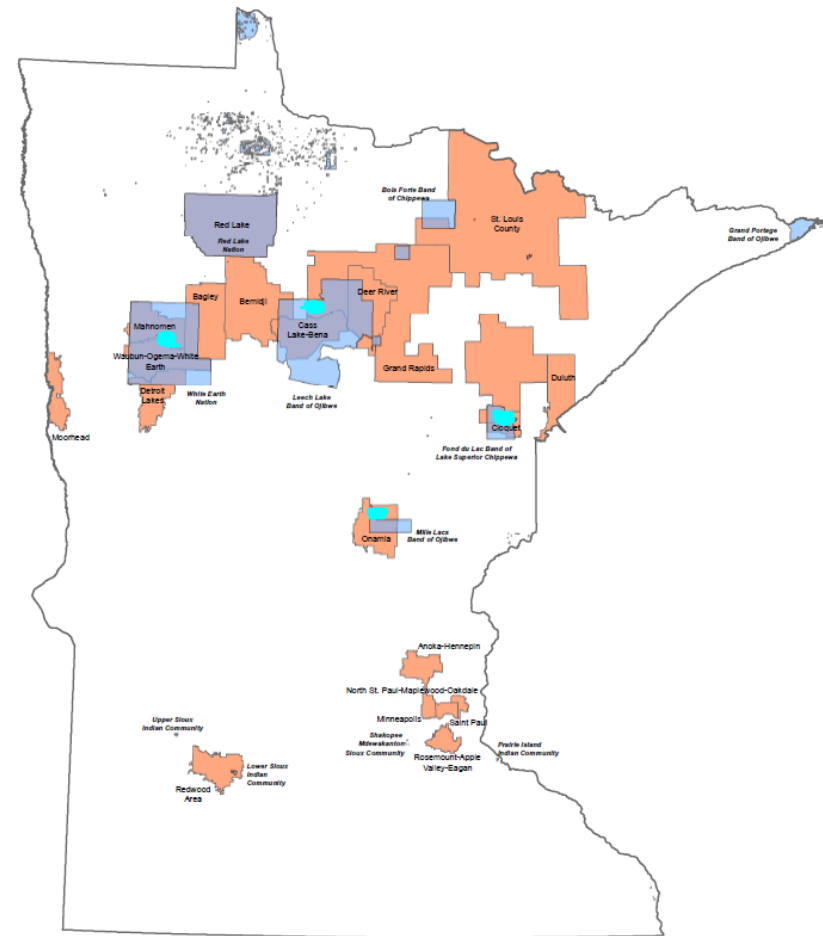
American Indian Students in Minnesota

Statutory obligations the State owes its Tribal Nations

MDE's Office of American Indian Education

We Value:

1. Language, culture, and the significant and complex histories of Indigenous peoples.
2. The input of Minnesota's Tribal Nations and communities.
3. American Indian student gifts and unique cultural needs.
4. The perspectives of American Indian parents and students.
5. Effective and innovative programming options.

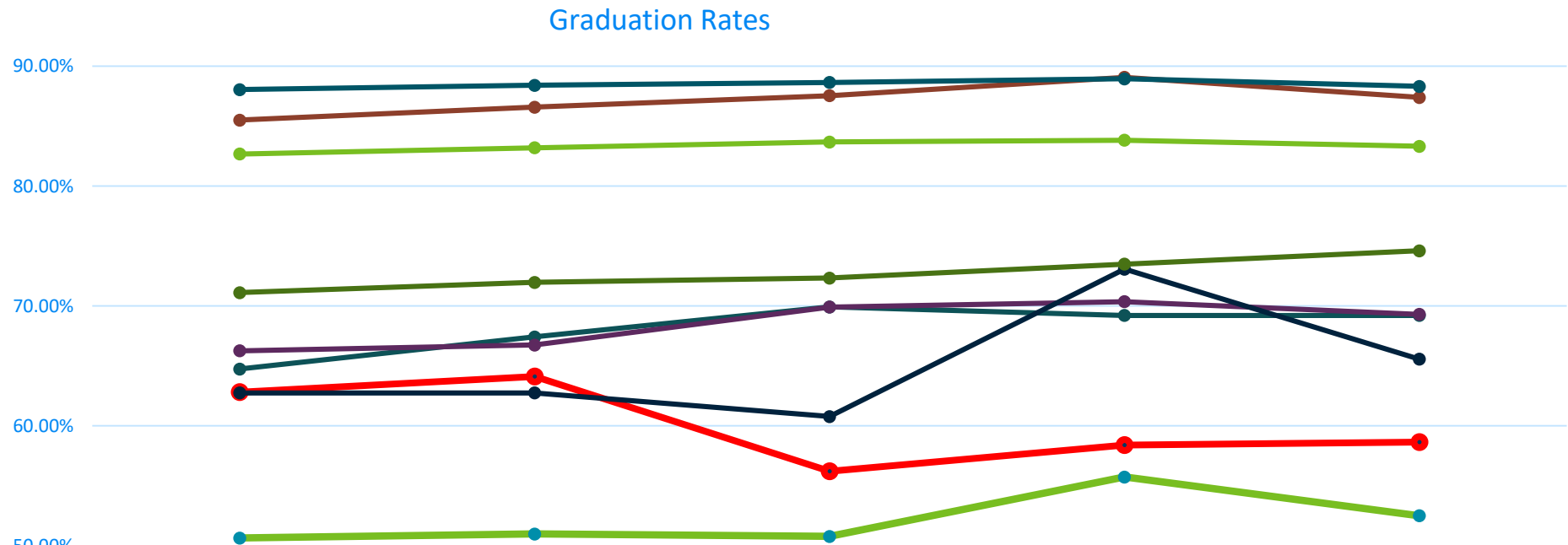


Eleven Sovereign Tribal Nations in Minnesota

[Bois Forte Band of Chippewa](#) | Asabiikone-zaag'igan | MCT Member
[Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa](#) | Nagaachiwanong | MCT Member
[Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa](#) | Gichi Onigaming | MCT Member
[Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe](#) | Gaa-zagaskwaajimekaag | MCT Member
[Lower Sioux Indian Community](#) | Cansa'yapi
[Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe](#) | Misi-zaaga'iganiing | MCT Member
[Prairie Island Indian Community](#) | Tinta Wita
[Red Lake Nation](#) | Miskwaagamiiwi-Zaagaiganing
[Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community](#) | Mdewakanton
[Upper Sioux Community](#) | Pezihutazizi Oyate
[White Earth Nation](#) | Gaa-waabaabiganikaag | MCT Member

- **28,373 students who identify as American Indian** on October 1, 2022
 - Minnesota Definition of American Indian: *Persons having origins in any of the original peoples of North America and who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.*
 - 15,551 American Indian students by the Federal definition
- Over **93 percent** of American Indian students attend public schools
- **173 schools** eligible for American Indian Education Aid
 - American Indian Education Aid revenue \$11,595,687 annually

Graduation Rates



	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
All State	62.82%	64.13%	56.22%	58.40%	58.64%
All Students	82.68%	83.20%	83.69%	83.83%	83.33%
All Federal	50.65%	50.99%	50.78%	55.74%	52.51%
Asian	85.51%	86.59%	87.55%	89.08%	87.40%
Black/African	64.75%	67.42%	69.93%	69.22%	69.22%
Hispanic/Latino	66.27%	66.75%	69.91%	70.36%	69.31%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	62.75%	62.75%	60.78%	73.08%	65.57%
Two or More Races	71.12%	71.98%	72.33%	73.49%	74.61%
White	88.05%	88.41%	88.65%	88.96%	88.32%

Legislative Purpose Statement

- Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.72
- **The legislature finds that a more adequate education is needed for American Indian people in the state of Minnesota.** *The legislature recognizes the unique educational and culturally related academic needs of American Indian people. The legislature also is concerned about the lack of American Indian teachers in the state. Therefore, pursuant to the policy of the state to ensure equal educational opportunity to every individual, it is the purpose of sections 124D.71 to 124D.82 to provide for American Indian education programs specially designed to meet these unique educational or culturally related academic needs or both.*

American Indian Education Programs

Defined by Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.74, subdivision 1

American Indian education programs are programs in public elementary and secondary schools, nonsectarian nonpublic, community, tribal, charter, or alternative schools enrolling American Indian children designed to:

- (1) support postsecondary preparation for pupils;
- (2) support the academic achievement of American Indian students;
- (3) make the curriculum relevant to the needs, interests, and cultural heritage of American Indian pupils;
- (4) provide positive reinforcement of the self-image of American Indian pupils;
- (5) develop intercultural awareness among pupils, parents, and staff; and
- (6) supplement, not supplant, state and federal educational and cocurricular programs.

Funding Support for American Indian Students

- Districts and schools must **meet the needs** of all enrolled American Indian students
- Districts must teach the required academic standards
- American Indian Education Aid **supports** all other programming in the district
 - This Aid supports, and should NOT supplant what the district already provides.

American Indian Education Plans

- The **Educational Plan** is a written document that outlines the plans for providing support and programs to meet the unique and specialized educational needs of American Indian students.
- It is **developed in coordination** with the American Indian Education Parent Committee.
- It identifies the:
 - Needs of American Indian students
 - Goals and objectives to be accomplished
 - Procedures to be followed
 - Methods to be used in evaluating the program
 - Proposed budgets

Government-to-Government Consultation

Government-to-Government consultation between the State and its Tribal Nations **required** as of 2021.

[Laws of Minnesota, 1st Spec. Sess. chapter 14, article 11, section 5](#)

“Consultation [...] is a duty of an agency to consult with the governing body or bodies of each individual Minnesota Tribal government.”

- “An agency must consult with each Minnesota Tribal government **at least annually**, and as often as is required to address matters that have Tribal implications.”
- “An agency must **develop and maintain ongoing consultation** with the Minnesota Tribal governments related to matters that have Tribal implications. Agencies must consider the input gathered from Tribal consultation into their decision-making processes, with the goal of achieving mutually beneficial solutions.”

[MDE Tribal Consultation Policy](#) publicly posted and available.

State Consultation Responsibilities

- Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.73, subdivision 3
 - **Tribal Nations Education Committee.** "Tribal Nations Education Committee" means the committee established through tribal directive that the commissioner consults with on American Indian education programs, policy, and all matters related to educating Minnesota's American Indian students.
- Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.79, subdivision 1
 - **American Indian community involvement.** The commissioner must provide for the maximum involvement of the Tribal Nations Education Committee, parents of American Indian children, secondary students eligible to be served, American Indian language and culture education teachers, American Indian teachers, paraprofessionals, representatives of community groups, and persons knowledgeable in the field of American Indian education, in the formulation of policy and procedures relating to the administration of sections 124D.71 to 124D.82.

Federal Tribal Consultation Requirements

Under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the below consultation responsibilities are **federally mandated** for:

- Districts or schools with more than **\$40,000 in Title VI** (federal) funding
- Districts or schools with more than **50% American Indian student** population

“(a) IN GENERAL.—To ensure timely and meaningful consultation on issues affecting American Indian and Alaska Native students, an affected local educational agency shall consult with appropriate officials from Indian tribes or tribal organizations approved by the tribes located in the area served by the local educational agency’s submission of a required plan or application for a covered program under this Act or for a program under Title VI of this Act. Such consultation shall be done in a manner and in such time that provides the opportunity for such appropriate officials from Indian tribes or tribal organizations to meaningfully and substantively contribute to such plan.”

- PL 114-95 § 8538, CONSULTATION WITH INDIAN TRIBES AND TRIBAL ORGANIZATION

Office of American Indian Education (OAIE) Vision & Mission

Vision:

American Indian students will reach their full potential within their school communities through meaningful, equitable, and targeted educational experiences that affirms and values their unique cultural identities.

Mission:

The Office of American Indian Education works to strengthen and promote positive experiences and educational outcomes for American Indian students statewide. We work to accomplish this mission by:

1. Actualizing Minnesota's ten commitments to equity
2. Building meaningful relationships
3. Engaging in timely and courageous conversations
4. Providing education and professional development
5. Proposing and supporting policies
6. Efficiently providing guidance and resources to districts and stakeholders



- What we do with MDE:
 - Consult Tribal Nations
 - Provide technical guidance and professional development
 - Advise on and interpret statute with Commissioner of Education
 - Promote legislation
 - Serve as a bridge to specific resources, including partnering with Tribal Nations in the development of curricular resources in support of MN Standards related to American Indians
 - Promote best practices for American Indian Learners

- *Director of American Indian Education
- *MDE Tribal Liaison
- Two (2) Office and Administrative Specialists
- Indigenous Education Specialist
- Program Manager
- State Programs Administrator

*report directly to the Commissioner

Pilámayaye | Miigwech | Niá:wen | Pinagigi | Thank You

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