TRIBAL RELATIONS AND RESILIENCY

(TRRU) was developed to build relationships and understandings within the Office of Public Instruction (OPI) and Montana school districts to incorporate Tribal voice, share resources and build relationships through consultation in matters affecting American Indian students. In conjunction with the ESSA federal mandate, we will also follow the traditional tribal protocol of consultation through the guidance of Elders. We have convened an Elder and Culture Wisdom Council for guidance in our efforts. Taking their direction as we work to solidify self-identity, holistic wellness and knowledge sharing from these corresponding doctoral level indigenous educators. Through these relationships and partnership, we work to lift the resiliency, wisdom, and beauty of our indigenous people at every level within OPI and local educational agencies (LEA’s). We are at your Service.

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Process of Hiring

OUR WORK

• Braiding Traditional with Westernized methods of Education for Youth
• Elder/Cultural Wisdom Council
• Youth Leadership Council Expansion
• Tribal Ed Department Development Group
• Land based Education and Support with Cultural Teachings within OPI
• Bridge building and Relationship creating efforts across MT
• Traditional Protocol of Consultation

Essential Elements of Consultation

http://opi.mt.gov/Leadership/Academic-Success/Every-Student-Succeeds-Act-ESSA/Tribal-Relations-and-Resiliency
Which Programs Require Consultation

- Title I, Part A (Improving Basic Programs Operated by State and Local Educational Agencies)
- Title I, Part C (Education and Migratory Children)
- Title I, Part D (Prevention and Intervention Programs for Children and Youth who are Neglected, Delinquent, or At-Risk)
- Title II, Part A (Supporting Effective Instruction)
- Title III, Part A (English Language Acquisition, Language Enhancement, and Academic Achievement Act)
- Title IV, Part A (Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants)
- Title IV, Part B (21st Century Community Learning Centers)
- Title V, Part B, subpart 2 (Rural and Low-Income School Program)
- Title VI, Part A, subpart 1 (Indian Education Formula Grants to Local Educational Agencies)

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) & Tribal Consultation

Section 8538 of the ESEA, as amended by the ESSA, for affected LEA’s to consult with Indian tribes and tribal organizations on issues affecting American Indian (AI) Students.

- A school district or system that have either 50% or more of its student enrollment made up of American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) students
- A school district received an Indian education formula grant under Title VI of the ESSA, in the previous fiscal year that exceeded $40,000

School districts are required to consult with local Tribal Nations or tribal organizations prior to submitting a plan or application under covered ESEA (ESSA) formula grant programs.

American Indian State Funding Streams for Students

Montana Indian Education For All Funding - Provides roughly $21.25 for every student in the state. The payment goes into every school’s general fund and must be allocated to implement IEFA in the district.

American Indian Student Achievement Gap Funding - $220 for every American Indian student to provide funding to school districts for the purpose of closing the educational achievement gap that exists between American Indian students and non-Indian students. According to MCA 20-9-330 (2) (a), funds are to be determined by “...using the number of American Indian students enrolled in the district based on the count of regularly enrolled students on the first Monday in October of the prior school year as reported to the Office of Public Instruction,” and deposited into the district’s general fund. Tribes have a say in how these funds can be spent to support American Indian youth in the districts.