The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

A Resolution to Support the Integration of Tribal Affiliation Data and Cultural Responsive Professional Development into the Oklahoma State Department of Education

Resolution No. 19-04

WHEREAS, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes (ITC) is an organization that unites the tribal governments of the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Muscogee (Creek), and Seminole Nations, representing more than 750,000 Indian people throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, Native students represent 13.59% of Statewide Public School enrollment in 2017-2018; and

WHEREAS, the Five Civilized Tribes continue to support public schools at local levels as well as state gaming compacts totaling over 139 million dollars in state exclusivity fees in 2018 alone; and

WHEREAS, school districts with Title VI-Indian Education formula grants internally house student data showing tribal affiliation; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for advanced data collection systems at the Oklahoma State Department of Education to further guide tribal supportive services to schools, education stakeholders, and students across the state of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, the State’s comprehensive education plan, Oklahoma EDGE, addresses Title II-A, Supporting Effective Instruction, with a focused effort of culturally relevant teaching preparation programs and in-service trainings; and

WHEREAS, ITC has the ability to leverage tribal resources that can engage communities, build relationships, intervene in educational barriers, support educator effectiveness, promote College and Career Readiness, empower Native students, and strengthen state educational systems; and

WHEREAS, we strongly believe that mutual support, culturally responsive school environments, and relevant data collection can and will improve public education at the state and local level.
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes strongly recommends the addition of tribal affiliation and other data elements supporting Indian Education (such as Title VI and Johnson O'Malley designations) at the student-level to the Oklahoma Wave System (https://sde.ok.gov/wave-system).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes Supports the Creation of a Culturally Responsive Educator Professional Development Series based on Oklahoma Native Nations.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma on this 11th day of January, 2019, by a vote of ___ for ___ against and ___ abstentions.

Bill Anoatubby, Governor
The Chickasaw Nation

James R. Floyd, Principal Chief
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Gary Batton, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Greg P. Chilcoat, Principal Chief
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

Bill John Baker, Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation