

SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN MONTESSORI ACADEMY

Parent Advisory Group

By-Laws



Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy

SUIT Tribal Council, Approved June 2010

Revised May 2018

Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy

By-Laws of the Parent Advisory Group

I. Introduction

The Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy (SUIMA) is owned and operated by the Southern Ute Indian Tribe (Tribe).

The mission of the SUIMA is "To Provide a strong educational foundation in a Montessori environment while preserving and sharing Southern Ute culture to all students of the Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy as they begin their path through life and become lifelong learners."

The purpose of the SUIMA Parent Advisory Group is to collaborate with the Tribe's Director of Department of Education and the Southern Ute Indian Tribal Council (Tribal Council) in developing and implementing the most effective educational program that is responsive to the cultural and academic needs of the SUIMA's students.

II. Role of the Parent Advisory Group

The Parent Advisory Board shall generally be responsible for advising the Tribal Council, the Director and SUIMA staff on various issues and concerns related to SUIMA's students, including assisting SUIMA with the implementation and oversight of its mission. The Parent Advisory Group may also serve as a forum for receiving input from other parents, community members and others as to SUIMA and its education programs. In addition, the Parent Advisory Group may focus on specific projects, volunteer at one (1) school event per school year, issues, and objectives; however, the Group's role shall be strictly advisory and the Group shall not have any SUIMA Administrative oversight or responsibility.

III. Membership

The SUIMA Parent Advisory Groups shall consist of the following members, each of whom shall be appointed by the Tribal Council to serve a term of two years, unless otherwise stated below.

- A. Five Parents (or legal guardians) of students enrolled at SUIMA;
- B. Two employees of the SUIMA staff for one year terms both of whom will serve in an Ex-officio capacity.
- C. Two Upper Elementary-level students selected through the process of filling out an application.
- D. Two interested Tribal Community Members; and

- E. One Tribal Council Member to serve in an Ex-officio capacity for a two year term.
Member of the Parent Advisory Group shall serve as volunteers without compensation.

IV. Selection, Appointment, Resignation and Removal

- A. Recruitment of interested Parent Advisory Members will begin on August 15th of each school year and last until May 30th, after which time Tribal Council will appoint members.
- B. Recruitment shall consist of advertisement by fliers placed throughout the community plus advertisement through KSUT, the SU DRUM, emails to parents and Tribal community members and at the SUIMA Round Ups.
- C. Members of the Parent Advisory Group shall be appointed by the SUIT Tribal Council after recommendations from the Director of Educations Principal.
- D. Any member of the Parent Advisory Group may resign from the Group at any time by submitting a written notice of resignation to the Group.
- E. In addition, a member shall be considered to have voluntarily resigned his/her position on the Parent Advisory Group if he/she misses three consecutive meetings of the Group without a valid excuse.
- F. The SUIT Tribal Council may remove a member of the Parent Advisory Group upon reasonable evidence of any of the following:
 - 1. Neglect of duty
 - 2. Violation of the SUIMA Parent Advisory Group regulations and SUIMA code of ethics.

V. Chairperson

- A. Upon appointment, the members of the Parent Advisory Group may select from among themselves a Chairperson to preside over the Group's meetings, establish a regular schedule of meetings to ensure that the Group is serving its purpose, and ensure that adequate notice of scheduled meetings is provided to all members of the Group to allow for attendance and participation.
- B. The Chairperson may delegate duties as needed for example a secretary to take meeting notes.
- C. The Chairperson shall serve in the capacity for one year from the date of his/her selection and may, upon subsequent selection by the Parent Advisory Group, serve up to, but not more than three consecutive terms as Chairperson.

VI. Quorum and Voting

- A. At least five voting members of the Parent Advisory Group must be present at a meeting in order for the Group to take any action that will represent the Group as a whole.

- B. All decisions of the Parent Advisory Group shall refrain from participating and/or voting on any matter that involves a conflict of interest (i.e., where the financial or personal interests of the member or his/her immediate family may conflict with the interests of the Group.)
- C. Upper Elementary students may join in any discussion with voting privileges in the matter of a policy making item.

VII. Adoption and Amendment

These By-Laws are hereby declared adopted by the SUIMA Parent Advisory Group and the Southern Ute Indian Tribal Council as the date set forth below:

IN WITNESS THEREOF:

Parent Advisory Group Representative

Date

Christiane Sage, Chairwoman

Date