

August 14, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

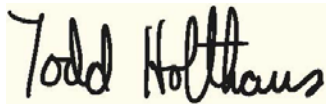
The Minnesota Rural Education Association (MREA) Board of Directors unanimously endorsed at their July 25, 2018 meeting partnering with the Tribal Nations Education Council (TNEC) in the Proposal for a Minnesota American Indian Curriculum Alignment, Development and Dissemination Project.

MREA represents 227 school districts and 30 cooperatives educating over 230,000 students daily. Two-thirds of Minnesota's American Indian (AMI) students are educated in rural Minnesota public school districts.

MREA has an AMI Advisory Committee of superintendents, principals, teacher, AMI coordinator and school board members. The advisory committee's number one priority is the alignment, development, and dissemination of vetted, accurate curriculum materials regarding Minnesota AMI culture, history, and governance. Minnesota Academic Standards contain 70 standards related to MN AMI, and as Matt Gross, Chair of the committee describes it, "Our teachers do not have vetted, accurate curriculum that they feel confident teaching these standards."

TNEC is uniquely qualified to be the lead partner on this project. MREA looks forward to a successful partnership leading to all Minnesota students' better knowledge and understanding of our AMI history, culture and governance which will result over time in a better educated citizenry of Minnesota.

Sincerely yours,



Todd Holthaus  
President, Board of Directors



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