

DRAFT HOPI EDUCATION CODE
FACT SHEET

On Feb. 20, 2019, Hopi Tribal Council directed the Tribe's Education Code Consultant to draft a Hopi Education Code under a unified school system with a Superintendent and single BIE grant. Bringing the schools together will give significant administrative support to the schools, allow schools more time and resources to focus on student achievement, and create greater accountability at all levels of Hopi schools. This Draft Education Code incorporates input from over 115 meetings, the findings of the Feasibility Study, and hundreds of comments.

Substantial Budget

In the 2017/2018 school year, the total BIE budget for all Hopi schools was nearly \$30 million for 1,446 students. BIE staff informed us that this range of funding can support a unified system if cost savings are used.

Teacher Retention

The Hopi Tribe appreciates and supports the dedication of its teachers to Hopi youth. The Draft Hopi Education Code does not call for teacher hiring or firing. Teachers will be retained per their normal evaluation process.

No Expansion of Tribal Council Authority

Education of Hopi youth will remain the responsibility of education professionals. The Tribal Council will not have any more or any less oversight of the schools than it has now. The Tribal Council will not have control over school funding or setting budgets. The Tribal Council will not be involved in day-to-day management of school education standards, curriculum or policies.

Transition Committee

A Transition Committee comprising of 12 members of various areas of expertise, including CSAs and teachers, shall facilitate and execute the planning and implementation of the transition from the current organization of the Hopi schools to the Hopi Tribe School System. The transition will take 18 - 26 months.

New Hopi Board of Education

A new Hopi Board of Education (HBE) will bring increased accountability and excellence to Hopi schools. HBE will be an independent, regulated entity. HBE will work with all stakeholders to set education policies, education standards and a consistent curriculum that is aligned with the education standards. HBE will hire an experienced Superintendent to manage a Central Administration Office that will perform much of the schools' administrative duties, BIE reporting, and data gathering. HBE will work with stakeholders to determine what administrative areas should be in the Central Administration Office for the greatest benefit to Hopi schools.

HBE will consist of 7 members and 7 alternates independently elected from each of the 7 school attendance areas. The Director of the Department of Education and Workforce Development will be an ex officio member.

HBE will ensure that all local schools equally receive their portion of BIE funding based in part on their 3-year student enrollment average. HBE will publish an Annual Report for Tribal Council, parents, and community members, including: each school's rating, student achievement data, audits, and other relevant information.

Local Schools and Local School Boards

Local school boards will provide their local schools with individualized assessment, advice and support. Local schools and their CSA will have day-to-day management authority to operate their school, for example, make hiring decisions and determine teaching methods, schedules, and discipline policies. Community schools will be re-established by students attending school in the attendance area of their residence unless they receive a waiver which will be developed by HBE, schools, and stakeholders.

Local Schools, Local Boards and the Superintendent will recommend a budget to the HBE. All private grants and gifts in existing bank and investment accounts will remain the sole property of their local school and school board.

To comment on the Draft Hopi Education Code, contact Angelina Okuda-Jacobs, Hopi's Education Code Consultant, at (202) 957-2696, or aokujac@gmail.com, by May 10, 2019.