

**MESCALERO APACHE TRIBE  
MESCALERO, NEW MEXICO**

**RESOLUTION 19-127**

**WHEREAS**, the Mescalero Apache Tribe, an Indian Tribe organized under the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934, (25 U.S.C. § 5123) and under its Revised Constitution has full power to act for the Tribe; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mescalero Apache Tribal Council has the power to represent the Tribe and act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe pursuant to Article XI, Section 1(i) of the Revised Constitution; and

**WHEREAS**, there is no resource that is more vital to the continued existence and integrity of the Mescalero Apache Tribe than its children; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mescalero Apache Tribal Council has the highest aspirations that its children be provided a quality education by the State of New Mexico to complement the rich traditions and heritage of the Mescalero Apache Tribe so that each member can achieve their full potential and become a productive citizen of their nation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mescalero Apache Tribe responded to a "Call to Action," by Mescalero Tribal Councilwoman Bernalyn Via to formally engage in a dialogue to respond to the pressing challenges in education brought forth by the landmark decision in *Yazzie/Martinez v. State of New Mexico* litigation ruling that every child in New Mexico has a right to a sufficient education under the New Mexico Constitution; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mescalero Apache Tribe with the assistance of the Leadership Institute, the Native American Budget and Policy Institute, the New Mexico Center on Law and Poverty; and the UNM Center for Social Policy worked collaboratively with the Tribal President, Tribal Council, and Tribal members for the purpose of developing recommendations that are culturally and linguistically appropriate and central to their educational blueprint that addresses the *Yazzie/Martinez v. State of New Mexico* remedies and formulate recommendations on policy, program, budget, amendments to existing statutes and legislative appropriations in preparation for the 2020 legislative session consistent with their vision and sacred trust for the well being of the Mescalero Apache people; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 20 and September 10-11, 2019 the four collaborative partners convened to assist the Mescalero Apache Tribe to develop recommendations from educational sovereignty and governance, early childhood, primary and secondary education, higher education, social welfare, behavioral and mental health, restorative justice, and transfer of cultural knowledge supported by policy, program, budget and legislative initiatives for the 2020 legislative session; and

**WHEREAS**, the recommendations listed in Exhibit "A" have been established as recurring budget priorities consistent with the Indian Education Act, the findings in *Yazzie/Martinez* and with the Public Education Department's Operating Commitments and Guiding Philosophy

**NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED**, that the recommendations, listed in Exhibit "A," developed by the Mescalero Tribal Council with input from tribal leaders, experts, community members and parents at the Mescalero Education Community Institute held on August 20 and September 10-11, 2019 at the Inn of the Mountain Gods addressing educational sovereignty, early childhood education, primary and secondary education, curriculum and materials development, higher education, native languages and program development, mental and behavioral health, social welfare services, college readiness, internships, tribal libraries, governance, accountability and assessments and the overarching framework of cultural knowledge transfer as outlined are of the highest priority for the Mescalero Apache Tribe to build the essential foundation and framework that directly aligns with the New Mexico Indian Education Act, findings aligned with the *Yazzie/Martinez v. State of New Mexico* decision and aligned with the Public Education Department's "Guiding Philosophy of the Learner/Community Centered Education , integrating personal health, cultural identity and academic excellence so that every student is academically and holistically (intellectual, physical, social/emotional, relationship/community) prepared for college/career and secure in their identity and ready to lead and contribute to their communities.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that these Recommendations are described more fully and are attached and incorporated into this Resolution as Exhibit "A."

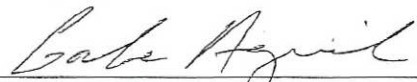
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that copies of this Resolution be provided to Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham and to the appropriate Committees of the Legislature.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that The Mescalero Apache Tribal Council will do all that is necessary to carry out the intent of these priorities including providing testimony as required, organizing meetings between agencies, the executive and legislative committees.

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**CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing enactment of the Mescalero Apache Tribal Council is duly adopted and approved on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of November 2019, at a legally called session of the Mescalero Apache Tribal Council, by a vote of 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining and 0 absent at which a quorum was present and at which a majority of the members voted in favor thereof. This enactment is approved by the President of the Mescalero Apache Tribe under authority of Article XII, Section 1, of the Revised Constitution.



Robert Gabe Aguilar, President



Sandra Platero, Secretary