

# AMERICAN INDIAN EDUCATION

## ● STATE ADVISORY ON INDIAN EDUCATION

In 1988, the State Board of Education (SBE) adopted an Indian education policy to provide a process for identifying issues pertaining to the education of American Indian students in grades K-12. In the same year, the N.C. General Assembly enacted Article 13A (NCGS § 115C-210 et seq) to establish a fifteen member State Advisory Council on Indian Education to serve as the mechanism for advocating on the behalf of American Indian students. Membership consists of American Indian parents and educators, legislative members from the N.C. Senate and House of Representatives, representatives from the UNC Board of Governors, and the the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs.

The Council serves a vital role in advising the State Board of Education on issues pertaining to the education of American Indian students. More specifically, the Council is charged with the following duties:

- to advise the SBE on effective educational practices for American Indian students;
- to explore programs that raise academic achievement and reduce the dropout rate among American Indian students;
- to advise the SBE and the Department of Public Instruction on ways to improve coordination and communication for the benefit of American Indian students affected by state and federal programs administered at the state level;
- to prepare and present an annual report to the SBE, tribal organizations, and to conferees at the annual North Carolina Indian Unity Conference; and
- to advise the SBE on any other aspect of American Indian education when requested by the State Board, educators, parents, students, business leaders, and other constituents.

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