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STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION – ADMINISTRATIVE RULE SUMMARY

Title/OAR #: Adoption—Tribal Attendance Pilot Project (TAPP) OAR 581-018-0520 to 581-018-0535

Date: March 3, 2016

Staff/Office:

New Rule Amend Existing Rule Repeal Rule

Hearing Date: Hearings Officer Report Attached

Prompted by: State law changes Federal law changes Other

Action Requested:

First Reading/Second Reading Adoption Adoption/Consent
Agenda

PROPOSED/AMENDED RULE SUMMARY: Adoption of the rules to implement the Tribal Attendance Pilot Project (TAPP) which is a limited duration, one-time appropriation to reduce the chronic absenteeism of Native American students in nine (9) school districts.

BACKGROUND:

After the release of the *Condition of Education for Oregon's Tribal Students* in January 2013, a study from the Chalkboard Project, the Government to Government Education Cluster (comprised of representatives from each of Oregon's nine (9) federally recognized tribes), created a Policy Option Package (POP) to solicit state funding to reduce chronic absenteeism of Native American students. The study revealed nearly one-third (33%) of Native American students in all grades were chronically absent (missing 10% or more of school days). While All Other students were at less than one-fifth (19%) chronically absent.

This year the Oregon legislature set aside \$1.5 million to support pilot projects to reduce chronic absenteeism of native students in nine preselected Oregon sites. This project is referred to as the Tribal Attendance Pilot Project (TAPP). Specifically, participating districts will receive up to \$150,000 to hire a community advocate position with deep local connections to create a school-wide initiative to reduce chronic absence. The funding is available January 2016 to June 2017.

The intent of the collaboration is to strengthen the links between the tribes and the schools that serve enrolled tribal members. However, because this is a school-wide initiative it will positively impact the attendance of every student attending those schools.

The remaining \$150,000 will be used by Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to mount a broad-based messaging campaign about the importance of school attendance, to provide technical support and training for the family advocate cohort, and monitor and report on the effectiveness of the pilot.

The outcome products include evaluation of promising practices, robust data sharing partnerships, and impetus for a tribal member performance improvement plan that highlights the effective collaboration of the tribes and rural school districts.

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As outlined in the POP, Oregon ODE will work with Oregon's nine federally recognized tribal governments to assist in the preselection of schools and create the framework for administering TAPP funds to each school. In addition, ODE will collect best practice models created through these funds to make available to other districts.

Additionally, there have been many organizations and agencies working on a variety of issues pertaining to chronic absenteeism across the state ODE has created an Advisory Panel comprised of leaders in this topic to support TAPP participants.

ISSUES/CONCERNS THAT SURFACED DURING RULE WORK:

- Underlined the need for a robust collaboration between the tribal community and the school district.
- The selection process took longer than anticipated as selection of districts/schools was determined by Oregon tribal governments.
- Schools/districts have the discretion to decline. If this occurs, ODE will work with the tribal government to select another school / district interested in participating.
- Districts hire an individual culturally representative of the community with deep community connections and each district/school has unique hiring processes which may or may not be culturally adequate. Additional concern about identifying a person for this position who can work with multiple organizations.
- Recommended that ODE provide skills development for the family advocate cohort.

CHANGED SINCE LAST BOARD MEETING? (so members can focus on what's different)

- N/A; first read—hasn't been before board
 No; same as last month
 Yes – As follows:

FISCAL IMPACT: Legislative funding of \$1.5 million to be distributed by second round (January 2016) and will expire by September 2017.

EFFECT OF YES VOTE: Tribal Attendance Pilot Project funds will be released upon tribal review of rfp and ODE acceptance.

EFFECT OF NO VOTE: Appropriated funds will not be available until Board approval and release at a later date.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

- Adopt administrative rule as prepared this month
 Adopt administrative rule next month
 No recommendation at this time (rarely used)