

**Gila River Indian Community  
School Board Coalition**

*Blackwater Community School ▪ Casa Blanca Community School ▪ Gila Crossing Community School ▪ Sacaton School District ▪ St. Peter Indian Mission School ▪ Maricopa Christian Village School*

June 22, 2020

Terrance Evans, Chairperson  
Gila River Indian Community  
Education Standing Committee  
525 W. Gu U Ki  
Sacaton, AZ 85147

Re: Request for Work Session

Chairperson Evans and Members of the Committee:

The GRIC School Board Coalition would like to request a Work Session with the Committee to discuss the many concerns each school has regarding the Education Code, Tribal Education Allocation Progress Reports and COVID 19 responses.

From a Public school, Bureau school and Parochial school perspective, the proposed revisions being made to the existing Code may pose conflict as to how each school operates. Schools are willing to share said conflicts with the Committee. The effects of Tribal Education Allocation Progress Reports arose as schools may become non-compliant with current requirements due to closure and the possibility of reopening schools in a virtual manner. The schools (in attendance) felt not much information as been provided to their respective schools on future reporting. Will the monies each school has remaining be taken back if the Written Plan revisions are not approved? Current requirements speak to a non-virtual learning environment including salaries that are being supported by the Allocation. Schools need to know what the future position of Allocation Reports and monies will be. And lastly, each school was required to submit school reopening plans, which a majority have completed and submitted to the Tribal Education Department for review and forward to ESC for approval. In addition, Governor's Amended Executive Order #7, namely the Second clause speaks to schools; however, Sacaton School District inquired about their school being included in the testing.

The School Board Coalition is open to a Saturday morning Work Session via Zoom to discuss concerns stated in this letter. If you have any questions, please refer them to me at [squak.girl@yahoo.com](mailto:squak.girl@yahoo.com) or [sjoaquin@cbschools.com](mailto:sjoaquin@cbschools.com). Thank you for your time and attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

Serena M. Joaquin  
School Board Coalition President

Cc: School Board Coalition Members  
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