

# Oneida Nation

Post Office Box 365

Phone: (920)869-2214



Oneida, WI 54155

## **BC Resolution # 08-09-17-D**

### **Transfer of Language Department to Oneida Nation School System**

- WHEREAS,** the Oneida Nation is a federally recognized Indian government and a treaty tribe recognized by the laws of the United States of America; and
- WHEREAS,** the Oneida General Tribal Council is the governing body of the Oneida Nation; and
- WHEREAS,** the Oneida Business Committee has been delegated the authority of Article IV, Section 1, of the Oneida Tribal Constitution by the Oneida General Tribal Council; and
- WHEREAS,** the Oneida Business Committee and General Tribal Council have always identified the value and priority of the language as representing who we are as a people, *see for example resolution # GTC-07-06-93-A directive of the General Tribal Council to publish hymnal books in the Oneida language and Oneida Business Committee actions creating a pilot linguistics program by resolution # BC-09-10-73, recognition of language speakers Mary Jourdan and Melinda Doxtator by resolutions # BC-05-04-90-A and B, creation of the Language Revitalization Fund by resolution # BC-01-28-04-A*; and
- WHEREAS,** the Oneida language learning programs have been located within various departments and divisions of the Oneida Nation organizational structure and is currently housed in the following location:  
Governmental Services Division  
Cultural Heritage Area Manager  
Language Department Director; and
- WHEREAS,** the Oneida School Board has been committed to teaching the Oneida language throughout the K-12 school programming since the creation of the tribal school; and
- WHEREAS,** the Language Department met with the Oneida School Board in January of 2017, *see January 18, 2017, Oneida School Board meeting minutes*, to discuss more fully integrating the language programming and instructors to provide greater opportunities to both learn and speak the language by youth, teachers, adult learners, and language program staff; and
- WHEREAS,** the Oneida School Board endorsed this concept on March 6, 2017 and recommended forwarding the concept to the Oneida Business Committee for consideration; and
- WHEREAS,** the Oneida Business Committee received a presentation from the Oneida School Board and the Language Department regarding the proposed concept at the May 10 and 24, 2017, regular meetings and agreed that this transition would provide greater learning and speaking opportunities for the youth and adult population, greater measurements of success and review of programming goals and processes; provided that the Oneida School Board must commit to maintaining, measuring and improving adult Oneida language learning and speaking opportunities; and

**WHEREAS,** the Oneida Business Committee, having received a commitment to maintain adult learning and speaking opportunities, agrees that the transfer of the Language Department to the Oneida Nation School System is in the best interests of providing Oneida language learning and speaking opportunities, measuring success, and providing ongoing improvements to programming; and

*Authorizing Transition*

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Oneida Business Committee hereby directs that the Language Department shall be transferred from the Governmental Services Division to the Oneida Nation School System to be placed in the appropriate organizational location and supervision by the Oneida School Board.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the transition shall be effective on October 1, 2017, with all supervision and budget authority and responsibility transferred on that date.

*Transition Management*

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Oneida School Board shall identify a single representative to act as the Transition Manager to be responsible for managing the transition on behalf of the Oneida Nation School System and all correspondence, information, and reporting actions set forth in this resolution shall be identified as the responsibility of the Oneida School Board through the Transition Manager.

*Reporting and Implementation*

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the transition shall begin with the submission of the following reports the Oneida Business Committee for review by no later than the first Executive Session Oneida Business Committee meeting in September of 2017; and these reports shall be forwarded to the Oneida School Board by the following business day after review:

- The Human Resources Department Manager shall submit a report which identifies every employee, employee number, and job description for the Language Department, including all payroll related information; so that the Oneida School Board may finalize corrections to the job descriptions regarding supervision.
- The Treasurer, or designee, shall, after consultation with the Language Department Director; submit a report which identifies the Language Department budget, accounting line numbers, and any related grants or obligations, so that the School Board may finalize corrections to the accounting, expense, and authorization. Provided that, any changes in the budget shall not result in additional Tribal contribution and any savings shall be returned to the General Fund.
- The Oneida School Board shall identify appropriate offices and programming space in the Oneida Nation School System which shall provide integration with K-12 programming and adult language education.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Oneida School Board shall ensure that the transfer to the new offices is completed in a timely and organized manner.

*Close-Out Report*

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED,** that the Oneida School Board shall file with the Oneida Business Committee a consolidated close-out report, identifying how the transition was finalized, including any recommendations to improve this process for other transitions; by the last Executive Session Oneida Business Committee meeting in October of 2017, as it may contain financial and/or personnel related information.

**CERTIFICATION**

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Oneida Business Committee, hereby certify that the Oneida Business Committee is composed of 9 members of whom 5 members constitute a quorum; 8 members were present at a meeting duly called, noticed and held on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2017; that the forgoing

resolution was duly adopted at such meeting by a vote of 7 members for, 0 members against, and 1 member not voting; and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.



Lisa Summers, Tribal Secretary  
Oneida Business Committee

\*According to the By-Laws, Article I, Section 1, the Chair votes "only in the case of a tie."