

RESOLUTION OF THE
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
of the 24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - First Year, 2019

AN ACTION

RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES; CONFIRMING THE
APPOINTMENT OF EMERSON JOHN TO THE NAVAJO NATION BOARD OF EDUCATION

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council with the purpose of providing legislative oversight on matters involving health, social service, education, general government services and human services. 2 N.N.C. §§ 400 (A), (C) (1).
- B. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee serves as oversight for the Navajo Nation Board of Education. 2 N.N.C. § 401(C) (3).
- C. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee has authority to confirm appointments to the Board. 10 N.N.C. § 106(B) (3).

SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

- A. The Navajo Nation Board of Education consists of eleven (11) members. Five (5) members are elected at-large, one from each of the five (5) agencies. Six (6) members are appointed positions. 10 N.N.C. § 106(B).
- B. Regarding appointments to the Navajo Nation Board of Education, the law provides, "[s]ix Board members shall be appointed to six year terms by the President of the Navajo Nation and confirmed by the [Health, Education and Human Services] Committee of the Navajo Nation Council. These members will be appointed on order to ensure that a variety of experience and knowledge is present on the Board." 10 N.N.C. § 106(B) (3).
- C. Qualifications for the six appointed positions to the Navajo Nation Board of Education are stated as follows - two appointed Board members will be individuals who are recognized for their knowledge of traditional Navajo culture; 10 N.N.C. § 106(C) (1) (a); one appointed Board member will be a school administrator working on the Navajo Nation; 10 N.N.C. § 106(C) (1) (b); two appointed Board member will be parents of

at least one child enrolled in a Kindergarten, elementary, or secondary program on the Navajo Nation; 10 N.N.C. § 106(C)(1)(c); and, one appointed Board member will be a teacher employed in a Bureau of Indian Affairs funded or state public school operating on the Navajo Nation; 10 N.N.C. § 106(C)(1)(d).

- D. Pursuant to appointment provisions applicable to the Navajo Nation Board of Education, the Navajo Nation President has appointed Emerson John, as the traditional Navajo culture representative. Mr. John's letter of appointment is attached as **Exhibit A** and his qualifications and interests are provided in **Exhibit B**.

SECTION THREE. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT

The Health, Education and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby confirms the appointment of Mr. Emerson John, to the Navajo Nation Board of Education. Mr. John shall serve in the traditional Navajo culture representative position on the Board, as provided in 10 N.N.C. § 106(C)(1)(a). Mr. John shall serve a term of six (6) years from the date of confirmation, consistent with 10 N.N.C. § 106(B).

CERTIFICATION

I, hereby, certify that the following resolution was duly considered by the Health, Education and Human Services Committee of the 24th Navajo Nation Council at a duly called meeting at Window Rock, (Navajo Nation) Arizona, at which quorum was present and that same was passed by a vote of 4 in favor, 0 opposed, on this 11th day of December 2019.



Carl R. Slater, Vice Chairperson, Pro Tem
Health, Education and Human Services Committee of
the 24th Navajo Nation Council

Motion: Honorable Charlaine Tso
Second: Honorable Pernell Halona

THE NAVAJO NATION

JONATHAN NEZ | PRESIDENT MYRON LIZER | VICE PRESIDENT



October 18, 2019

Emerson John, Cultural Liaison Specialist
PO Box
Fort Defiance, AZ 86504

Dear Mr. John,

Thank you for your interest in the Navajo Nation Board of Education. We appreciate you being available for an interview to discuss your background and qualifications for appointment. Based on our discussion with you, it is our pleasure to appoint you to the Board of Education as the member with knowledge of traditional Navajo culture. Your dedication to preserving and supporting our culture aligns with our philosophy.

The Navajo Nation Council's Health, Education, and Human Services Committee will consider confirming your appointment. With the Committee's positive action your term will be six years. Should you have any questions please contact Chris Bahe, Executive Staff Assistant, Office of the President and Vice President, at 928-871-7000.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jonathan Nez".

Jonathan Nez, President
The Navajo Nation

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Myron Lizer".

Myron Lizer, Vice President
The Navajo Nation

LETTER OF RESUME

TO: Dr. Tommy H. Lewis Jr, Superintendent of Schools
NAVAJO NATION DIVISION OF EDUCATION
P.O. Box 670
Window Rock, Arizona 86515

FROM: Emerson John, Cultural Liaison Specialist
P.O. Box
Fort Defiance, Arizona 86504

Dear Dr Lewis,

Yá'át'ééh, Shí ei Emerson John yiníshye, T'áchiini nishlí, Tsi'náájini báshichiín, Tódich'inii dáshichei dóó Kinyagñii dáshinalí, I am currently working for Tsehootsooi Medical Center as a Cultural Liaison Specialist, Fort Defiance, Arizona. I am originally from White Cone, Arizona and now reside in Window Rock, Arizona. Let this letter to serve applying for the vacant position on Board of Education as a Navajo Culture Leader

I am individual who always conducts myself with great sincerity, I am bilingual with the ability to motivate, guide and lead with a clear agenda. I have skills, knowledge and experiences. I assure your entity that I will certainly be an asset while fulfilling the goals and objectives for your entity and as a member of Navajo Division of Education Board of Education, Culture Leader. I am also member of the Navajo Hataali Association and certified a Navajo Practitioner.

I vested in Navajo culture education, administratively attune, project management experience with the energetic approach to exceed general to difficulty requisites. Simultaneously, I am very traditionally oriented w/ our voice, Dine' language and our Dine' culture. I recognize and challenges the importance of preserving and perpetuating the Navajo language for the survival of the Navajo Nation. I developed an understanding, knowledge and respect for Navajo culture, history, civics and social studies to assure that our Navajo students acknowledge the values of our Navajo culture and language. I have worked and experienced in the past at various Navajo schools and taught Navajo Literacy, Culture and Reading and Writing in Navajo with our elementary, middle schools and high schools. I served on Committees to develop Navajo Culture Curriculum Standards for schools on the reservation.

With this, I am confident to serve on the Board and advocate on behalf of our Navajo culture that is still surviving. I am a believer that our culture values will go forth in life endowed with what is required to achieve ultimate aspiration.

Your consideration and acknowledging my will be greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me or email:

Ahxéhée'

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Emerson John', written in dark ink.

Emerson John, Culture Specialist

Culture Related Work Experience:

- **CULTURE LIAISON SPECIALIST**

December 2012 - Present

Tsehootsooi Medical Center, Fort Defiance, AZ

Under Health Promotion/Disease Prevention, I serve all 16 service units which includes schools, chapter and community areas promoting culture education and presentations relating and integrated health and Wellness

- **TRADITIONAL COORDINATOR**

October 2011 – December 2012

Navajo Department of Behavioral Health Services, Fort Defiance, AZ

Coordinated the Traditional Services and Practitioners to provide Navajo Traditional ceremonies for referred patients. Developed conceptual plans, action plans and standardized formats of on improving traditional healing grounds. Supervise the Navajo Practitioners providing ceremonial services to referred clients.

- **DINE STUDIES INSTRUCTOR**

August 2010 – May 10

Greasewood Springs Community School, Greasewood Springs, AZ

Taught Kindergarten through Eighth grade students on Navajo Culture and Literacy using the designated school foreign language standards. Coordinated all culture related activities.

- **DINE CULTURE LEADER**

February 2009 – May 2010

Greasewood Springs Community School, Greasewood Springs, AZ

Taught all grades on Navajo Literacy and culture. Prepared lesson plans and coordinated all culture activities. Developed standards to align with language standards and promote culture practices to the students.

- **DINE CURRICULUM DEVELOPER**

February 2005 – May 2009

Greasewood Springs Community School, Greasewood Springs, AZ

Worked under Title III Program to work with Navajo Studies program on developing Navajo culture materials for all grades. Illustrated all materials to teach Navajo Culture in classroom for teachers.

OTHER CERTIFICATIONS:

- **ORAL (NATIVE AMERICAN) LANGUAGE AND CULTURE CERTIFICATION**
July 2018
- **CERTIFIED AZEE' BEE NAHAGHA OF DINE NATION**
Certified in June 2011
- **CERTIFIED NAVAJO PRACTITIONER**
Dine Hataalii Association
June 9, 2018

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
Regular Meeting
December 11, 2019

Roll Call
Vote Tally Sheet

LEGISLATION NO. 0348-19

AN ACTION RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES; CONFIRMING
THE APPOINTMENT OF EMERSON JOHN TO THE NAVAJO NATION BOARD OF EDUCATION

(Note: Eligible for Committee Action November 25, 2019)

Sponsor: Honorable Daniel E. Tso

Co-Sponsors: Honorable Pernell Halona; Honorable Edison J. Wauneka;

December 11, 2019 - Main Motion

Motion by: Honorable Charlaine Tso


Seconded by: Honorable Pernell Halona

Vote: 4 in favor; 0 Opposed; Vice-Chairperson Not Voting


Yeas: Charlaine Tso; Pernell Halona; Paul Begay, Jr.; Daniel E. Tso

Nays: None

Absent (excused): Edison J. Wauneka



Carl Roessel Slater, Chairperson
Health, Education and Human Services Committee



Beverly Martinez, Legislative Advisor
Health, Education and Human Services Committee