

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 ANDREA K. THOMAS 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 Navajo Nation Code 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 Andrea K. Thomas, as the teacher representative. Ms. Thomas' letter of appointment is attached as **Exhibit A** and her 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 Navajo Nation President's appointment of Andrea K. Thomas, to the Navajo Nation Board of Education. Ms. Thomas shall serve in the teacher representative position on the Board, as provided in 10 N.N.C. § 106(C)(1)(d). Ms. Thomas 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 5 in favor, 0 opposed, on this 25th day of November 2019.


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

Motion: Honorable Paul Begay, Jr.
Second: Honorable Charlaine Tso

THE NAVAJO NATION

JONATHAN NEZ | PRESIDENT MYRON LIZER | VICE PRESIDENT



October 24, 2019

Andrea Thomas
PO Box
Shiprock, NM 87420

Dear Ms. Thomas,

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 teacher member of the Board. Your dedication to the education of our children and returning home to the Navajo Nation to educate our children align with our policy of supporting our youth.

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,

Jonathan Nez, President
The Navajo Nation

Myron Lizer, Vice President
The Navajo Nation

EXHIBIT

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B

Andrea Kathryn Thomas

PO BOX [REDACTED] • Shiprock, NM, 87420 • [REDACTED] • [REDACTED]ail.com



▼ Objective

Elementary School Teacher with 5+ years of experience managing classrooms on the Navajo Nation in Shiprock, NM. Motivating and talented classroom teacher driven to inspire students to pursue academic and personal excellence. In addition to having high expectations for academic growth, utilizing positive reinforcement teaching techniques to encourage student behavior and growth. Consistently strive to create a challenging and engaging learning environment in which student become life-long scholar and learners. Flexible and open-minded in adapting to changing education trends and student needs. Truly believes that all children deserve access to high quality education.

▼ Experience

August 2014 – Present

Elementary Education Teacher • 5th Grade, 4th Grade, 3rd Grade (Looping) • Mesa Elementary, Central Consolidated Schools – CCSD, Shiprock, NM

August 2013– May 2014

Elementary Education Teacher • 3rd Grade • Nizhoni Elementary, Central Consolidated Schools – CCSD, Shiprock, NM

March 2013 – May 2013

Long Term Substitute • 4th/5th Grade • Alice King Community Charter School, Albuquerque, NM

August 2011 – December 2012

Teacher Education Practicum • 4th/5th Grade • Alice King Community Charter School, Albuquerque, NM

▼ Education

Fort Lewis College, Durango, CO 81301

- Fall 2013 – Spring 2015: TESOL Courses

University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87420

- Elementary Education B.A.

University of New Mexico- Gallup Branch, Albuquerque, NM 87420

- Fall 2008 – Spring 2009: Early Childhood



▼ Leadership

New Mexico Teacher Evaluation Task Force – The New Mexico Public Education Department (NMPED) selected a task force to plan and make recommendations for the NM teacher evaluation system for the current 2019-2020 school year as well as begin creating a comprehensive evaluation system to be used in 2020-2021.

Yale National Fellow – The Yale National Initiative purpose is to provide public school teachers deeper knowledge of the content they teach and first-hand experience with the Teachers Institute approach to high-quality professional development. In addition to strengthening teaching in public schools by influencing public policy on teacher professional development. As a Yale Fellow a curriculum unit was developed to teach students about the subjects of the assigned seminar, in addition to including the academic standards of the school district.

New Mexico KidsCAN Advisory Board – NewMexicoKidsCan is an advocate for community informed, student-centered and research-backed education policies that help to provide children of New Mexico quality education. In addition to ensuring education policies and practices enable our students to become the future community, civic and business leaders needed in New Mexico.

New Mexico Teacher Leader Network

- a. *Secretary Teacher Advisory* - A distinguished group of teachers from across the state who meet with the Secretary of Education quarterly to provide valuable insight into education issue. The goal of the STA is to EQUIP teachers with information & resources; EMPOWER teachers to increase student achievement; and CHAMPION success.
- b. *State Ambassador* – NM State Ambassadors learn about PED areas of focus and state policy, develop a statewide community of support, and create resources to equip teachers with helpful and accurate information. Ambassadors go deep around specific topics and gain expertise as teacher leaders.

▼ Certifications

New Mexico Level II Teacher- K-8 Elementary, TESOL Endorsed

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting
November 25, 2019

Roll Call
Vote Tally Sheet

LEGISLATION NO. 0350-19

AN ACTION RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES; CONFIRMING
THE APPOINTMENT OF ANDREA K. THOMAS TO THE NAVAJO NATION BOARD OF
EDUCATION

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

Sponsor: Honorable Daniel E. Tso

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

November 25 2019 - Main Motion

Motion by: Honorable Paul Begay, Jr.

Seconded by: Honorable Charlaine Tso

Vote: 5 in favor; 0 Opposed; Vice-Chairperson Not Voting


Yeas: all present

Nays: None

Absent (excused): all present



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



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