

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0173-15

DATE: May 12, 2015

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES; CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF MS. CANDACE J. KEAMS-BENALLY, TO THE NAVAJO NATION BOARD OF EDUCATION

PURPOSE: This resolution will confirm the appointment of Ms. Candace J. Keams-Benally to the Navajo Nation Board of Education.

This written summary does not address recommended amendments as may be provided by the standing committees. The Office of Legislative Counsel requests each Council Delegate to review each proposed resolution in detail.

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD: None
Website Posting Time/Date: 3:55pm 5/19/15
Posting End Date: 5/19/2015
Eligible for Action: 5/20/2015

PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION
23rd NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - First Year, 2015

INTRODUCED BY



(Prime Sponsor)

TRACKING NO. 0173-15

AN ACTION

RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES; CONFIRMING
THE APPOINTMENT OF MS. CANDACE J. KEAMS-BENALLY, TO THE NAVAJO
NATION BOARD OF EDUCATION

BE IT ENACTED:

Section 1. Findings and Purposes

A. The Navajo Nation Board of Education consists of eleven (11) members. 10 N.N.C. §106(B). Five (5) members are elected at-large, one from each of the five (5) agencies. Six (6) members are appointed positions. *Id.*

B. Regarding appointments to the Navajo Nation Board of Education, the law provides:
"Six 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 in 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

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

6 D. Pursuant to appointment provisions applicable to the Navajo Nation Board of
7 Education, President Ben Shelly has appointed Ms. Candace J. Keams-Benally, to the
8 teacher position on the Board. See Exhibit A, letter of appointment. Ms. King-Benally's
9 qualifications and interests are stated in Exhibit B.

10 E. The Health, Education and Human Services Committee serves as oversight for the
11 Navajo Nation Board of Education. 2 N.N.C. § 401(C)(3). The committee has authority to
12 confirm appointments to the Board. 10 N.N.C. §106(B)(3).
13

14 **Section 2. Confirmation of Appointment**

15 The Health, Education and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council
16 hereby confirms the appointment of Ms. Candace J. Keams-Benally, to the Navajo Nation
17 Board of Education. Ms. Keams-Benally shall serve in the teacher representative position
18 on the Board, as provided in 10 N.N.C. §106(C)(1)(d). She shall serve a term consistent
19 with 10 N.N.C. § 106(B).
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THE NAVAJO NATION



BEN SHELLY PRESIDENT
REX LEE JIM VICE PRESIDENT

April 15, 2015



Candace J. Keams-Benally
P.O. Box
Shiprock, NM 87420

Dear Mrs. Keams-Benally:

Pursuant to 2 NNC § 3451, I am appointing you to serve as a board member to the Navajo Nation Board of Education as the *Teacher Representative* for duration of four years effective immediately. As a board member you shall meet when the Board of Education meets. The roles are included in the statute in Navajo Nation code and being that you are a credentialed and certified teacher who coaches teachers working with exceptional students in the Central Consolidated School District in Shiprock, NM, your presence on the board will be valuable. Your role as a teacher representative will be to offer expert advisement on curriculum structures of our schools that have Navajo students attending. Accordingly, your appointment is subject to confirmation by the Naa bik'iyati' Committee of the Navajo Nation Council. Please work with Mr. Deswood Tome, *Chief of Staff* of the Navajo Nation Executive Branch, *immediately* in getting your confirmation hearing set. He can be contacted at (928) 871-7000.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Shelly".

Ben Shelly, President
THE NAVAJO NATION

cc: Rex Lee Jim, Vice President, THE NAVAJO NATION
The Honorable LoRenzo Bates, Speaker, THE NAVAJO NATION
The Honorable Jonathan Hale, Chairman, HEHSC NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL
Deswood Tome, Chief of Staff, Navajo Nation Executive Branch
Dr. Tommy Lewis, Superintend, Department of Diné Education

Candace J. Keams-Benally: Autobiography

My name is Candace J. Keams-Benally. I am Kinłichii'nii born for the Tódích'íi'nii. My maternal grandfather is Bit'ahnii and my paternal grandfather is Tótsohníí. I was raised north of Aneth, Utah by my parents and my maternal grandparents. At an early age my family instilled perseverance to be successful in earning a degree in higher education; everyday my grandmother's values and principles she implanted in me are echoed.

Upon graduating from high school I began my college career. I earned my AS in Liberal Arts from the College of Eastern Utah, Blanding. Then I enrolled in the Distant Teacher Education Program offered by Fort Lewis College and received my BA in Bi-Cultural Studies. During this endeavor I also attended Dine College in Shiprock, NM and enrolled in a number of Navajo Language and Culture courses. At this point I was qualified to take a series of tests to become a certified teacher. I passed all the required tests and became a certified teacher and was hired as a FACE Early Childhood Teacher.

During my tenure as the teacher for Beclabito Day school I taught young children. There was one student with special needs that impacted my professional life so profoundly that I resigned in 2007 upon acceptance to the University of Oregon Graduate school to pursue my Master degree in Special Education. I had applied to the University of Oregon's Sapsikwala Project and was selected as a recipient of the grant. I was one of a cohort of six recipients. The Sapsik'wala (Teacher) Education Project was created by the University of Oregon College of Education in partnership with the nine federally recognized tribes of the State of Oregon. The goal of the project is to prepare American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) as teachers whose knowledge, skills, and cultural sensitivity will bring about long-term, much needed improvements in the elementary, middle and high school educational experiences of AI/AN youth. I was accepted to the University of Oregon Graduate school and graduated in 2008.

My philosophy of education has evolved over the years. I believe that all children have the innate ability to learn if given the right support and opportunity to receive a quality education. It is my desire to ensure that all students are given that opportunity. Children need to feel safe and supported in a positive learning environment. It is also important to me that parents are supported along with their students. Parents should also be empowered so they feel they have the tools to help support their child learning.

This opportunity to serve as a member of the committee will allow for me to share my vision, alongside fellow colleagues within the field of education.

Candace J. Keams-Benally

@yahoo.com • P.O. Box Shiprock, NM 87420 • 505-

Objective

To become a member of the Navajo Nation Board of Education

Education

University of Oregon

Eugene, Oregon

June 2007-August 2008 MEd. Special Education

Fort Lewis College

Durango, Colorado

June 2001-December 2003 BA Bi-Cultural Studies

Dine College

Shiprock, New Mexico

June 2007-August 2008 Navajo Language and Culture courses.

Transferred credits to FLC

College of Eastern Utah

Price, Utah

June 1991-May 1996 AA Liberal Arts

Montezuma-Cortez High School

Cortez, Colorado

Diploma awarded May 1991

Experience

Central Consolidated School District Exceptional Programs Office | Shiprock, NM

Exceptional Programs Coach *July 2012 – currently employed*

As the district coach, I closely monitor special education procedures, services, and student files in collaboration with various federal, state and local agencies. I ensure that all state and federal timelines are met for the identification and transition of preschool aged students that are receiving Part C Early Intervention. I have implemented a strong cooperative relationship with

Candace J. Keams-Benally

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outside local agencies. I ensure that the Memoranda of Understanding are adhered to and that reports are timely and accurate. I also ensure that NM PED Indicators for Early Childhood are met, including ECOS, 60-day time line and inclusion are reported.

Central Consolidated School District Nizhoni Elementary School | Shiprock, NM
PreK Developmentally Delayed Teacher *August 2008 – May 2012*

I provided guidance and instructional experiences that were both academically and developmentally appropriate designed to promote social, physical, and intellectual growth necessary for school success. I was also the case manager for all preschool students with special needs in addition to being the classroom teacher.

Bureau of Indian Education Beclabito Day School | Beclabito, NM
F.A.C.E. Early Childhood Teacher *November 2004 – May 2007*

As the lead teacher I supported parents/primary caregivers in their role as their child's first and most influential teacher; increased family literacy; strengthened family-school-community connections; promoted the early identification and services to children with special needs; increased parent participation in their child's learning; supported and celebrated the unique cultural and linguistic diversity of the Beclabito community served by the program; and promoted lifelong learning. I, along with the team, integrated language and culture in two settings: home and school.

Certification

New Mexico PED :

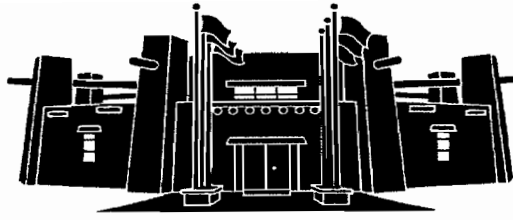
- LEVEL TWO CONTINUING LICENSE B-3 EARLY CHILDHOOD LICENSE With Endorsement in TESOL
- LEVEL TWO CONTINUING LICENSE PRE K-12 SPECIAL EDUCATION LICENSE With Endorsement in TESOL
- LEVEL TWO CONTINUING LICENSE K-8 ELEMENTARY LICENSE With Endorsement in TESOL

Professional Affiliation

Member:

National Education Association

Council of Exceptional Children-Division of Early Childhood Education



MEMORANDUM

To : Hon. Leonard Tsosie, Delegate
Navajo Nation Council

From : 

Ron Haven, Attorney
Office of Legislative Counsel

Date : May 12, 2015

Re : AN ACTION RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN
SERVICES; CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF MS. CANDACE J.
KEAMS-BENALLY, TO THE NAVAJO NATION BOARD OF
EDUCATION

As requested, I have prepared the above-referenced proposed resolution and associated legislative summary sheet pursuant to your request for legislative drafting. As to format, the resolution as drafted is legally sufficient. Regarding substance, as with any legislation, it can be subject to review by the courts in the event of proper challenge. Please ensure that this particular resolution request is precisely what you want.

If you are satisfied with the proposed resolution, please sign it as "sponsor" and submit it to the Office of Legislative Services where it will be given a tracking number and sent to the Office of the Speaker for assignment. If the proposed resolution is unacceptable to you, please contact me at the Office of Legislative Counsel and advise me of the changes you would like made to the proposed resolution. Ahéhee'.

OLC # 15-373-1



May 14, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO : *Honorable Members*
Health, Education and Human Service Committee

FROM :

Hon. LoRenzo C. Bates, *Speaker*
23rd Navajo Nation Council

SUBJECT : **ASSIGNMENT OF LEGISLATION**

Pursuant to 2 N.N.C § 164 (A)(4), this memorandum serves to inform and advise you that I assign the following legislation to the Health, Education and Human Service Committee;

Legislation No. 0173-15

RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES; CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF MS. CANDACE J. KEAMS-BENALLY, TO THE NAVAJO NATION BOARD OF EDUCATION.

As the Committee assigned to consider the legislation, Legislation No. 0173-15 must be placed on the Health, Education and Human Service Committee's agenda at the next regular meeting for final consideration.

ATTACHMENT: Legislation No. 0173-15

xc: Hon. Ben Shelly, *President*
The Navajo Nation
Harrison Tsosie, *Attorney General*
Robert Willie, *Controller*
Dominic Beyer, *Executive Director, OMB*
Honorable Leonard Tsosie, Council Delegate (*Prime Sponsor*)

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0173-15_____

SPONSOR: Leonard Tsosie

TITLE: An Action Relating To Health, Education and Human Services; Confirming the Appointment of Ms. Candace J. Keams-Benally, To The Navajo Nation Board of Education

Date posted: May 14, 2015 at 3:35pm

Digital comments may be e-mailed to comments@navajo-nsn.gov

Written comments may be mailed to:

Executive Director
Office of Legislative Services
P.O. Box 3390
Window Rock, AZ 86515
(928) 871-7590

Comments may be made in the form of chapter resolutions, letters, position papers, etc. Please include your name, position title, address for written comments; a valid e-mail address is required. Anonymous comments will not be included in the Legislation packet.

Please note: This digital copy is being provided for the benefit of the Navajo Nation chapters and public use. Any political use is prohibited. All written comments received become the property of the Navajo Nation and will be forwarded to the assigned Navajo Nation Council standing committee(s) and/or the Navajo Nation Council for review. Any tampering with public records are punishable by Navajo Nation law pursuant to 17 N.N.C. §374 *et. seq.*

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW SUMMARY

LEGISLATION NO.: 0173-15

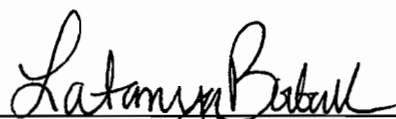
SPONSOR: Honorable Leonard Tsosie

TITLE: Relating to Health, Education And Human Services; Confirming The Appointment Of Ms. Candace J. Keams-Benally, To The Navajo Nation Board Of Education.

Posted: May 14, 2015 at 3:35 PM

5 DAY Comment Period Ended: May 19, 2015

Digital Comments received: *No comments were received.*



Policy Analyst
Office of Legislative Services

5.20.15 8:41am

Date/Time