



MILLE LACS BAND OF OJIBWE

Executive Branch of Tribal Government

EXECUTIVE ORDER 174-16

AN EXECUTIVE ORDER TO AUTHORIZE TEMPORARY HIRING OF DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR OF DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Title 4 MLBSA § 6(e), the Chief Executive has the authority to issue an Executive Order on any subject matter within the Executive Branch of government; and,

WHEREAS, due to the recent resignation of the Commissioner of Education, the position of Commissioner of Education is now vacant; and,

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Title 4 MLBSA § 10(a) and (b), the Commissioner of Administration shall have authority to act in the absence of any other commissioner by and with the advice and consent of the Chief Executive; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Title 4 MLBSA § 10(c) in the absence of any other commissioner, the Commissioner of Administration is authorized to sign all vouchers and expenditures of appropriated funds of the Executive Branch pursuant to the provisions of Band statute; and,

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Title 4 MLBSA § 10(b) the advice and consent of the Chief Executive is as follows: Until such time as a new Commissioner of Education is appointed and confirmed by the Band Assembly, it is imperative that an educational professional immediately be assigned to temporarily administer and manage the budgets of education programs to ensure the well-being of educational programs and carry out duties required to protect the welfare of educational programs with the exception of those signatory authorizations statutorily required to be performed by a commissioner; and,

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Title 4 MLBSA § 6(b) the Chief Executive is authorized to appoint executive officers, judges, heads of commissions, boards or authorities, legal and financial counsel and to make appointments to fill any vacancy in any office as authorized by Band Statute; and,

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Title 4 MLBSA § 4 the Chief Executive is an executive offer of the Non-Removable Mille Lacs Band of Band and in accordance with Title 4 MLBSA § 7(i) an executive officer is authorized to take such measures as are deemed necessary to prevent any action which threatens the well-being of programs within their respective jurisdiction.

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MILLE LACS BAND OF OJIBWE

Executive Branch of Tribal Government

To: Education Staff
Cc: All Commissioners
From: Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin
Re: Administration of Education Programs
Date: May 2, 2016

Most of you are aware that Suzanne Wise has stepped down from her position as Commissioner of Education to finish her Master's degree in Social Work. We are grateful for her service to the Band in the education field and wish her well as she continues her own educational journey.

I have begun the process of initiating a search for a new Commissioner of Education, but from past experience, finding a qualified person to serve in a Commissioner position and getting the person through the confirmation process in the Legislative Branch could take some time. In the meantime, several of our Education programs are at a critical juncture and require immediate managerial oversight from a skilled education professional.

For these reasons, I have appointed Ed Minnema (Ed.D) to the temporary position of Deputy Administrator of Education. Ed is currently serving as Executive Director of Human Resources, but has previous experience working at Nay Ah Shing School. In his new capacity, Deputy Administrator Minnema will serve as the lead administrator with oversight over all education programs and budgets operated by the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe. He will be charged with primary decision-making authority over all education programs and with managing all Education budgets, with the exception of signatory authority for vouchers and expenditures, which in accordance with Band Statutes must be signed by a commissioner. All budgetary decisions and expenditures, however, must be initiated and directed by Deputy Administrator Minnema prior to going to the Commissioner or Assistant Commissioner of Administration for signature.

As someone with an M.A. in Education, I know that Education is a highly skilled field and requires someone with specialized educational experience in order to run the programs well. We have outstanding staff and need a temporary administrator. I believe that on an interim basis, Deputy Administrator Minnema is the right person for that responsibility. As teachers and staff, you are a critical component to a successful transition. Deputy Administrator Minnema has assured me that he welcomes and invites your ideas and solutions for improving education, so please bring those forward and he will listen to you.

I am deeply appreciative to all our teachers and education personnel for your devotion and commitment to our students and value your expertise, and ask that you please help us work through this transition. I believe you are in good hands moving forward and value each of you.

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NOW THEREFORE, Be it ordered that the temporary position of Deputy Administrator is hereby created in the Department of Education and Edward Minnema (Ed.D), Executive Director of Human Resources, is hereby appointed to temporarily serve as the Deputy Administrator, which shall be the lead administrative position responsible for managing education programs, and is authorized to make managerial and budgetary decisions necessary to effectively administer the Department of Education, with the exception of final signatory authority on vouchers and expenditures as provided by Band statute, which shall be carried out by the Commissioner or Assistant Commissioner of Administration. This appointment shall be in effect until such time as a Commissioner of Education is nominated and appointed by the Chief Executive and confirmed by the Band Assembly,

DATED, at Vineland, Minnesota, this first day of May in the year two thousand sixteen.

Effective Date: May 1, 2016
Expiration Date: June 30, 2017




Melanie A. Benjamin
Chief Executive