

TO: Duane F. Poitra

FROM: Tom Decker

DATE: June 25, 2007

SUBJECT: Proposed Contract between Belcourt Public Schools and Ojibwa School

This memo is a follow-up to our phone conversation of last week in which we discussed conditions under which Ojibwa School, which is a non-public school, could be operated as part of the Belcourt Public School System. In our view, the following conditions need to be met:

1. The elected school board of Belcourt Public School District # 7 must have effective management control of all aspects of the operation of the Ojibwa School.
2. A written lease agreement must be approved by both parties, which outlines what obligations each side has in order to ensure that Belcourt Public School has access to and use of the Ojibwa School Facility to operate as a facility of the public school district.
3. All certificated staff who will work at the Ojibwa School must be under contract with Belcourt Public School.
4. All funds provided for education of Ojibwa students from any source must be accounted for through the Belcourt Public School District as provided for in NDSFARM Manual.

You indicated in our earlier conversation that the tribal council had passed a motion authorizing operation of the Ojibwa School as a part of Belcourt Public Schools. Please forward a copy of that resolution to this office at your earliest opportunity.

The Department will need to review and approve the agreements and documents outlined above before approval can be granted, which would provide access to foundation aid for the enrollment of the Ojibwa School as part of Belcourt Public Schools.