



# Kiowa Tribe District 7 Newsletter

August of 2023



## Greetings from the District 7 Legislator

Deonde em bon! It's a great pleasure to greet all Kiowa District 7 residents! We wish you and your families health, happiness, and success in the coming year. We are here to serve you and make sure that our district remains informed and has access to tribal resources. Together, we can work towards creating an even brighter future for our community. Thanks for being a part of Kiowa District 7!

We have many wonderful programs and initiatives planned for the coming year. Every individual in our district plays an important role in its success and we invite you to get involved.

If you ever have questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to reach out and let us know by phone and email. We are always looking for ways to better serve our community - your input is invaluable!

We look forward to working together in 2023 and beyond to ensure Kiowa District 7 is well represented.

Warm regards,

Warren Queton  
District 7 Legislator

---

## Tulsa Office Appointment Only



**Schedule a Meeting with Legislator  
Warren Queton**

You will receive a call or email confirming your meeting date

[Sign in to Google](#) to save your progress. [Learn more](#)

\* Indicates required question

Email \*

Your email

Name \*

Your answer

The Kiowa Tribe District 7 is now open by appointment only starting out until we can coordinate funding and staffing for full time staff at the Tulsa Office. We understand that this may inconvenience some of our citizens. To schedule an appointment, email [district7legislature@kiowatribe.org](mailto:district7legislature@kiowatribe.org) or visit the D7 Webpage or fill out our [Appointment Form](#).

Please select 3 possible dates and we will reach out to confirm your appointment. We also understand that people may need to change or cancel their appointments due to unexpected circumstances. If this happens, please contact us as soon as possible so we can make the necessary changes. We want to ensure that everyone's needs are taken care of in a timely manner.

## Legislative Update



# Latest Legislature News

The Kiowa Legislature is an important legislative body and has the authority to implement laws, regulations, and agreements. This council meets on a regular basis to discuss issues affecting the tribe, we now have a new legislative chamber located in Carnegie at the Kiowa Community Center. Recently the District 7 Office has been working with the Kiowa Election Commission and Executive Branch to enact KICCY2018 Resolution 0040 which requires the Annual Budget for the Kiowa Tribe to be presented, discussed/described, and voted upon by an “item line vote” narrative procedure in the spirit of transparency and achievement of a high standard of accountability. The Kiowa Legislature agrees that the budget needs to be shared and explained to the people.

After further discussion with Terry Rainey, from Automated Election Services (AES), our third-party vendor who operates our elections. In the meeting it was made clear that the company serves over 100 tribes with their tribal elections and that only 3 tribes out of 100 tribes the company served had Line-Item Votes on their tribal budget. The Kiowa Legislature looked at a sample budget of what a line-item vote would look

like. After talking with AES and discussing a sample ballot, it was decided that a line-item ballot may appear very confusing and difficult to operate at this time.

As a sponsor for this resolution, I have decided to withdraw the line-item vote bill and submit a new resolution called “Kiowa Tribe Annual Budget Transparency Act of 2023”. This resolution will require the Kiowa Tribe Executive Branch to organize an annual budget narrative document, with the annual budget summary and details, as well as program and department reports, to be presented, processed, and distributed accordingly before the annual election of the Kiowa Tribe. The purpose is to require the Annual Budget Appropriation, for the Kiowa Tribe, to be presented, discussed/described, a narrative procedure to achievement transparency and a higher standard of accountability. The benefits of “Kiowa Tribe Annual Budget Transparency Act of 2023” will be 1) Accountability-Clarification of tribal funds is necessary, so that Tribal Officials can be accountable for effectiveness and efficiency, 2) Integrity-The Kiowa Tribe shall maintain a high standard of integrity in use of Tribal funds and 3) Create Trust-A transparent annual budget appropriation process fosters trust with the Kiowa Citizens and their views and interests are respected, that tribal funds are used well.

The second focus is on the Kiowa Blood Quantum:

Attention Kiowa Tribe citizens! The District 7 Legislative Office is taking action to address the crucial issue of Kiowa blood quantum. We are organizing a special meeting of the KIC to propose an amendatory convention, where we will discuss six options for you to consider. This convention will provide you with vital data analysis on each option, ensuring that you have all the information necessary to make an informed decision.

Here are the six options up for discussion:

- 1) 1/4 Kiowa Blood
- 2) 1/8 Kiowa Blood
- 3) 1/16 Kiowa Blood
- 4) Making all current members 4/4s Kiowa
- 5) Aggregate Blood Quantum
- 6) Accepting all lineage blood quantum

Once the amendatory convention concludes and the Kiowa Tribe deliberates on the options, a ballot will be prepared and sent to you for voting. The results of this vote will guide the Legislature in presenting an amendment to the Kiowa constitution.

Through the efforts of the Kiowa Legislature, we can strive toward a more equitable and prosperous future for all members of the tribal community. Together, we can create an environment where everyone can thrive and benefit from equal opportunities and resources

**A-bah (Bread) for Thought**





### **Time For Schooling**

It's another start to a new school year! Here is wishing all our tribal students, their families, and our tribal government the best school year with many, many great experiences and progress. We all understand it has been a trying period due to the pandemic, inflation, and some crazy politics at the national and state levels. As a result, some of our life/family basics have undergone shifting and challenges. I have often reminded my family during these times to not fall victim to the "out of sight, out of mind" state after the pandemic and within politics. Fortunately, our family grounding, persevering tribal spirit, and belief in God have kept us close through all of these events. Our younger tribal members need to remember that the Kiowa Family (immediate/extended) is the salvation to being who we are in, and of, life. Kiowa Families must consistently enforce and reinforce the cultural definition and value of family as they raise the children and grandchildren during these "aye nay nay" times. We have been through more difficult times as Kiowa people but still remain here today.

I encourage all our tribal students to keep in mind that in many circumstances, "you are who you hang around with" especially during your formative years of life. Always be mindful of today and tomorrow and practice making the right

decision especially in and after school. As you grow and expand in knowledge and wisdom you will learn to appreciate the times you did make the right decision like I did as a young man, and now a retired Kiowa educator. Be your own person and keep excited about your future. There is a great life ahead for you so become acquainted with the right path and work hard to stay on that path. My grandpa use to tell me that the light you see at the end of the tunnel is not another train coming at you, it is you growing up and coming out of the tunnel into the real world. It is the light of the world. I understood he was talking about getting an education. One of my favorite life-guiding sayings is “Great minds talk about ideas; average minds talk about events; small minds talk about people.” I pray that all of you will be known for your ideas and leadership. Be smart with your being and remembers these words from this old man.

For you parents, I encourage you to take a proactive attitude in raising your children/grandchildren. You will look back and think “I wish I had done this, done that, in raising sister/sonny.” Being there for your children is what it is all about simply stated. My mom, dad, brothers, grandma, grandpa, aunts, uncles, cousins, and all my immediate and extended family members were/are always there for me throughout my life, giving me security and confidence in myself. I realize times have changed. But I still sense in our Kiowa communities that our children are still loved and encompassed by the family. In the old days, we always believed that our Kiowa children belonged to the tribal community and that all of us were responsible for their upbringing from the time they were born until the time they met the Creator. I will be the first to say “Believe it or not, you are not alone in raising your children, especially in our tribal service/traditional areas of life”. The federal government attempted to assimilate our people in many ways. One way was to separate us from one another through programs like the boarding school experience, and the relocation program, but we always came back to our communities sometimes after being away for 20 years or longer. Our culture is still alive today as evidenced by the words from yours truly, regardless of the education experience or the uprooting of families to strange cities. Kiowa people have always found one another regardless of the boundaries imposed. To keep our culture vibrant and alive parents and relevant tribal leadership/service areas must keep focus on the responsibility of taking good care of our children even when times get very difficult. Otherwise, our tribe and communities will experience extreme identity crisis and cultural trauma. Tribal government is here to help but you must give them your ideas, methods, and support in, and for, successful parenting in today’s societies, tribal and non-tribal. Working together as tribal communities we better serve our tribal children and parents in meeting the challenges we are reading about and experiencing today.

Finally, our tribal government has just recently experienced a change in leadership and vision for our people. They promised more opportunities from Kiowa citizens in employment, economic well-being, education, culture retention, housing, and health, with transparency and accountability, while being positive role models for our younger people and the tribe as a nation. As a tribe we are only as good as our citizenship’s involvement in government and governance. We have many opportunities once the communities/districts, legislative, executive, and judicial institutions practice and demonstrate working together for a quality life

experience for the tribe as a whole. Just recently the Kiowa Nation developed and implemented a structural organizational component to include what they refer to as a “tribal education agency”. The citizens of the Nation must be informed of this development and the rationale for its existence. Why? Because they are responsible for the direction of their children’s lives, which includes the type of education and the information they are exposed to and receive. Our tribal parents/communities must become actively engaged in the direction of this new tribal education agency and its approach toward the education of Kiowa students at all levels. All too often our tribal parents of public school Kiowa students, including higher education, have been so indoctrinated by past non-Indian and government (BIA/BIE) colonial perspectives that they now depend on these entities with little challenge in regard to the home culture educational influence of our peoples. Still our children face a school culture that continues to alienate tribal students with no regard for what I refer to as culturally related academic needs (CRAN), needs attached to a cultural base and grounding. Our Kiowa Indian parents via the Kiowa Indian Council (KIC), must get engaged in the public schooling of their children and demand a mutual respect for their home culture concerning their children’s progress in the public school setting. This is where the tribal agency can play a vital role of representation, development, and advocacy, in partnership with Kiowa parents, Indian education professionals (baby boomers), and public schools. From what I hear this new tribal education agency comes at a great time of readjustment, transparency, and accountability for all involved with education. We need to endorse and support this evolution through contact with our tribal legislators and offer suggestions/recommendations that are required in our constitution, but more importantly, as concerned, engaged, responsible parents of this new generation of our Kiowa Nation. Productive, consistent tribal government engagement in the public schooling of tribal citizens requires the endorsement and support of tribal parents.

Thank you for your time and attention.

A-Bah

---

## **K-12 BACK-TO-SCHOOL CLOTHING ASSISTANCE APPLICATION FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2023-2024**

There is still time to apply for the Back to School Clothing Assistance. Deadline is August 31st. Application to apply can be found on our [District-7](#) page

## **Upcoming Events**

KIOWA TRIBE DISTRICT 7

# TRIBAL ID CARD DAY



**SATURDAY, AUGUST 19TH 2023**

---

123 24TH AVE NW, NORMAN, OK 73069  
10 AM - 2 PM CST  
PHONE NUMBER: (405) 857-8408

---

August Zoom Meeting





**AUGUST 24TH 12-2**

**DISTRICT 7  
MONTHLY  
ZOOM MEETING**

**TOPIC: KIOWA CASINO  
OPERATIONS AUTHORITY**



**FOLLOWED BY A Q&A  
WITH LEGISLATOR WARREN QUETON**

**ZOOM MEETING: 824 5626 0532  
PASSWORD: 108665**

**district7legislature@kiowatribe.org  
<https://www.kiowatribe.org/district-7>  
405-857-8408**

---

**Tulsa Drum Singing**



The District 7 Tulsa Office held their first Drum Singing this month. It was lead by Darrell and Sonny Blackbear. This group of singers are dedicated to a sober lifestyle and use the drum as a focal point of support.

We will be sharing the video on our [Youtube Channel](#) (Coming soon).



# Kiowa language lives on in Reservation Dogs season 3



Kiowa language is coming back to life on the small screen. The hit series, Reservation Dogs, has announced that season three will feature Kiowa dialogue spoken by the main characters of this amazing show. This news is sure to be welcomed by those who want to see more Indigenous languages represented in mainstream media.

The show's producers said that they chose the Kiowa language for its "richness and beauty", and to better reflect the story of their characters. The series follows four young Native American teens living on a fictional

reservation in rural Oklahoma. This season marks the first time that Kiowa dialogue has been featured prominently in a television show.

The Kiowa Language Department and Kiowa District 7 Legislative Office have worked hard to make sure that the language is accurately and respectfully represented on screen. They've enlisted Kiowa consultants and have done extensive research into the language and its culture, so that viewers can experience an authentic story.

It's an exciting time for Kiowa Language Revitalization, and we're looking forward to hearing more Indigenous languages on our screens. Hopefully this move towards representation will help to bring these languages back to life!

Share this news with your friends and family.















**File an Issue**







As a legislative office, we understand it is important to hear from our citizens. We have created a form where citizens are encouraged to submit their issues. All submissions will be anonymous and we will share these issues and concerns in future newsletters. We want to work towards improving our laws for Kiowa citizens but first we want to hear from you.

[File an Issue](#)

Kiowa District 7 Legislative Office | 123 24th AVE NW, Norman, OK 73069 405-857-8408

[Unsubscribe wqueton@gmail.com](mailto:wqueton@gmail.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [district7legislature@kiowatribe.org](mailto:district7legislature@kiowatribe.org) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!