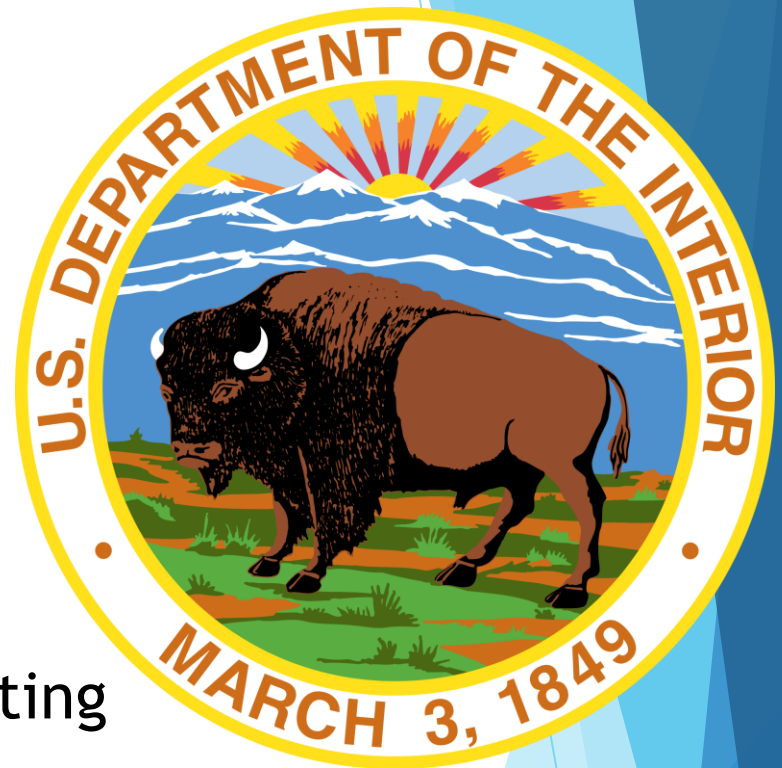


Bureau of Indian Education Update

November 2020 Quarterly Meeting
Tribal Interior Budget Council



BIE Presenter

▶ **Tony L. Dearman, Director**

2020 Accomplishments

- ▶ Full implementation and closure of 19 Government Accountability Office (GAO) and 12 Office of Inspector General (OIG) DOI concurred recommendations.
- ▶ Finalized negotiated rulemaking establishing a single, uniform accountability system for standards and assessments across BIE schools.
- ▶ Completed consultation regarding the BIE Agency Plan to ensure timely publishing by the 2020-2021 School Year.
- ▶ Finalized revisions to the new Johnson-O'Malley Act regulations which will clarify eligibility requirements. Webinars in early 2021.
- ▶ Established a first ever 105(I) lease agreement with the Gila River Indian Community to model such supports for other communities.
- ▶ Implemented an innovative project which installed mobile Wi-Fi units for students riding on BIE's 25 longest school bus routes.

2020 Accomplishments

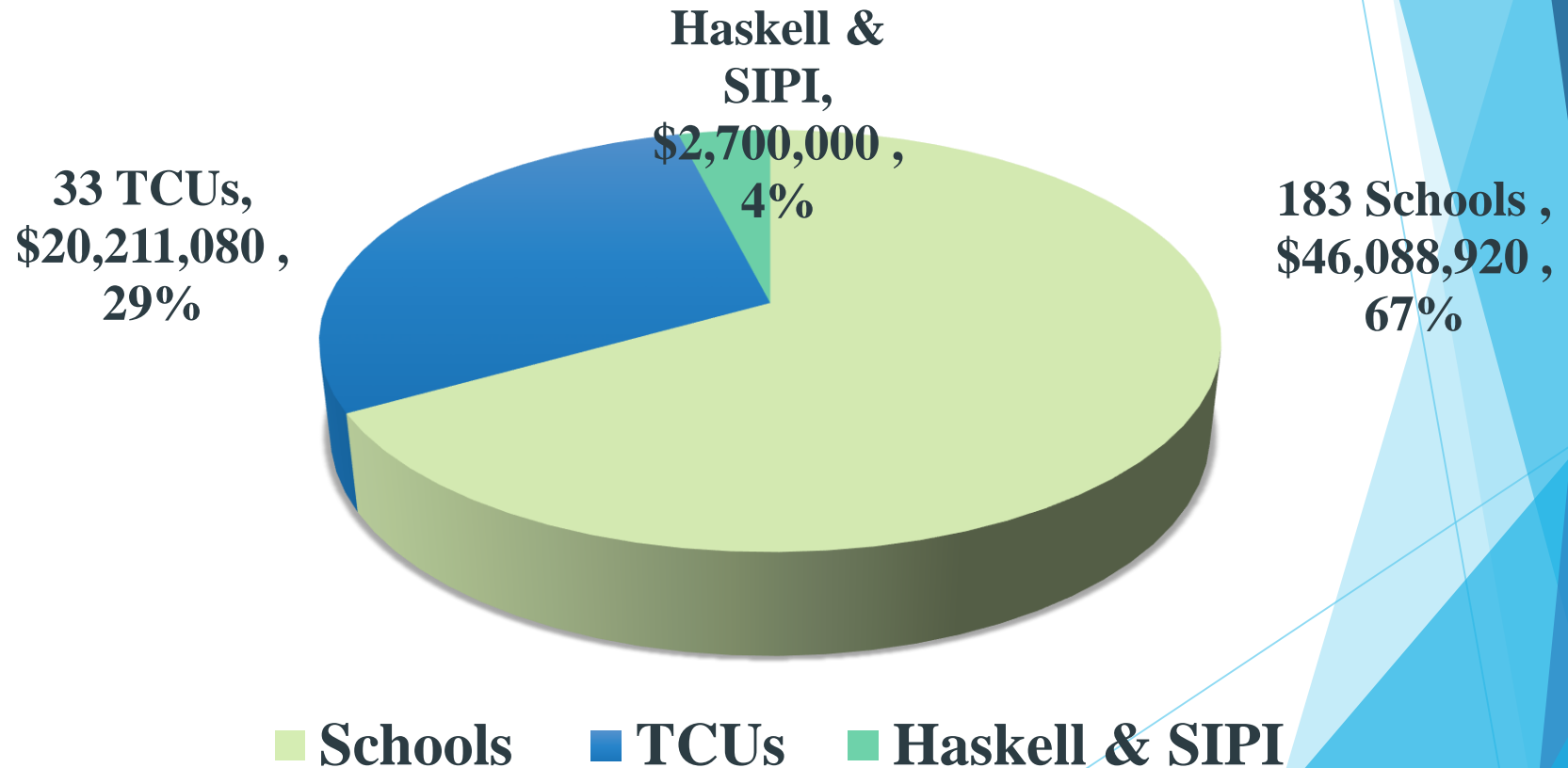
- ▶ Completed Year-Two implementation of the Strategic Direction and will conduct a mid-cycle review and stakeholder engagement in 2021 to build upon accomplishments and address identified challenges.
- ▶ Made significant progress in 2020 to address requirements of the Department of Education (ED) in regards to its Corrective Action Plan (CAP) for improving services to students.
- ▶ As result, the ED Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) removed corresponding reporting requirements from the FY 2020 CAP and/or has decided not to take further enforcement action on BIE.
- ▶ BIE's Behavioral Health and Wellness Contract was awarded utilizing \$8,000,000 to provide services accessible to students and staff at all BIE-funded institutions. This contract will establish a behavioral health service delivery system to provide much-needed counseling/crisis support across our system.
- ▶ BIE is partnering across Indian Affairs to identify ten schools for renovation and replacement through a Division of Facilities Management and Construction pilot project.
- ▶ To better support schools and students, BIE initiated an IT assessment contract to provide technology to students during these unique times.

Funding Overview

CARES Act - Direct Funds \$69M

(Thousands)

87% Obligated YTD



Funding Overview

CARES Act - ED Transfer Funds \$153.7M
(Thousands)

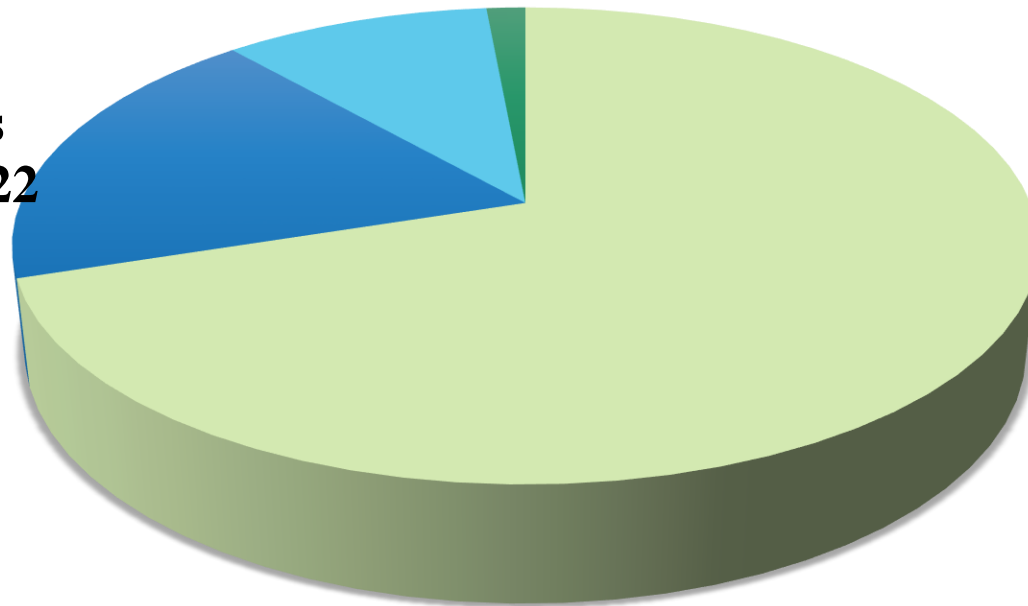
80% Obligated YTD

BIE Reserve \$15,375,000
10%

Haskell and SIPI...

33 TCUs
\$28,516,922
19%

183 Schools
\$107,625,000...



■ Schools ■ TCUs ■ BIE Reserve ■ Haskell and SIPI

2020 - 2021 School Year Reopening

- ▶ All Bureau operated schools opened for virtual learning on September 16, 2020 except for a select few that had limited additional delays due to wildfires in the western United States.
- ▶ Schools had the local flexibility to open for continuity of learning using on-site, distance learning, and a hybrid approach as based on local conditions and in coordination with nearby Indian tribes and local public health officials.
- ▶ On August 6, 2020, a Dear Tribal Leader Letter from the Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs (AS-IA) noted that schools would open, to the maximum extent possible, on September 16, 2020.
- ▶ As conditions change locally, school leaders have the flexibility to re-evaluate the learning models and adjust accordingly, in coordination with BIE staff.
- ▶ The Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) school reopening plan, *Return to Learn!*, may be found at <https://returntolearn.bie.edu/>.

BIE Standards, Assessment and Accountability System (SAAS) Background

- ▶ BIE published its Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Standards, Assessments and Accountability System (SAAS) Final Rule in April 2020 to be implemented in the 2020-2021 School Year.
- ▶ BIE SAAS Rule provides BIE with the ability to operate under a single unified assessment system intended to bolster professional development and student performance. This framework and consistency across the 23 states for which BIE schools are located is critical to improving services.
- ▶ Governing Bodies and School Boards may waive, in part or in whole, any part of the Final Rule.
 - ▶ BIE established a Standards, Assessments, and Accountability Negotiated Rulemaking (NRM) Committee in July 2018.
 - ▶ The proposed rule was published on June 27, 2019 with a 60-day public comment period.
 - ▶ BIE held five in-person consultations sessions and one webinar with Tribes, eligible entities, stakeholders, and interested parties.

Strategic Direction

Significant Milestone Accomplishments

- ▶ Created a working partnership with the National Head Start Association.
- ▶ Provided suicidal ideation recognition and prevention training for superintendents, principals, teachers, students, and support staff.
- ▶ Established 12 local service MOA agreements to provide critical mental and behavioral health services to BIE students.
- ▶ Implemented a pilot High School Teacher Academy.
- ▶ Identified critical elements and completed an implementation plan for the forthcoming BIE State Assessment.
- ▶ Listening sessions will be held in 2021 as part of the Strategic Direction's Year 3 mid-cycle review.

Strategic Direction

Challenges Encountered

- ▶ Overly ambitious initial planning
- ▶ Limited human capital resources (approximately 60% staffed)
- ▶ Unanticipated impact of the ongoing COVID-19 national emergency.
 - ▶ Strategic Direction teams re-tasked many of their work plans to address emergent COVID-19 priorities.
 - ▶ The bulk of the 68 additional actions are related to re-tasked COVID-19 work. For example, crisis response and support for behavioral and mental health at impacted schools.

We value your support and continued partnership – Questions?