September 14, 2018

Tony L. Dearman, Director
Bureau of Indian Education
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
MS-3609-MIB
Washington, DC 20240

RE: Assuring Tribally-Controlled Schools Access to the Interagency Motor Pool

Dear Director Dearman,

On behalf of the Department of the Interior (DOI) Self-Governance Advisory Committee (SGAC), I write to request that the Bureau of Indian Education initiate changes that will ensure Tribally-Controlled Schools maintain access to Government Services Administration (GSA) Interagency Motor Pool (also referred to as “GSA Fleet”) Leasing.

During the July 2018 SGAC meeting, GSA reviewed implementation changes that are expected as a result of the GSA Order 4800.2I. It came to SGAC’s attention that the proposed changes may have significant impact on Tribally-Controlled Schools operating under a grant arrangement due to missing references to the Indian Self-Determination Assistance Act (ISDEAA) authority to access Federal Source and Supply. Ultimately, GSA’s proposal will result in an elimination of access to the Interagency Motor Pool unless specific language is included in these agreements. As such, SGAC requests that the BIE work with Tribes and GSA to ensure that agreements are amended to include reference and authority to access the Interagency Motor Pool under section 103 of the ISDEAA.

SGAC is confident that this will not significantly impact Self-Governance Tribes because Title IV Tribes have standard language that is included in Tribal Compacts and Funding Agreements which asserts access to the Interagency Motor Pool.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to a positive response to our request and actions to ensure that Tribally-Controlled Schools maintain full access to Federal Source and Supply as is provided for under ISDEAA Section 103. If you would like to discuss this issue further please contact Jay Spaan, Executive Director, SGCE at (918) 302-0252 or jays@tribalselfgov.org.

Sincerely,

W. Ron Allen
Tribal Chairman/CEO, Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe
Chairman, DOI SGAC

CC: Sharee Freeman, Director, Office of Self-Governance, DOI
Daniel Reichmann, GSA Fleet
Clint Bowers, Management Analyst, Office of Research, Policy and Postsecondary Education, BIE
Travis Clark, Management/Policy Analyst, BIE
Jay Spaan, Executive Director, SGCE