

Indigenous Insight-er

June 2021

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Congratulations Class of 2021

You did it! Congratulations to this year's graduating class! Graduating from high school is a huge accomplishment and not an easy one! Add a pandemic to the challenge and well, you have all of us in awe to say the least!

According to the National Congress of American Indians, "On average, less than 50 percent of Native students graduate from high school each year in the seven states with the highest percentage of American Indian and Alaska Native students [Montana is included]."

You are defying the odds and showing everyone that changing these statistics is possible! We are all so proud of you!

Keep striving for your goals and accomplishing great things. We are all here cheering you on!

Sincerely,

*MCPS Native American Student Services and
Title VI Parent Advisory Committee*

CONGRATULATIONS
class of
2021
GRADUATES

"Let us put our minds together to see what we can build for our children"

- Chief Sitting Bull, Hunkpapa Lakota

2020 - 2021 Staff Contact Information & School Assignments

Name	Title	Phone 728-2400	Email	Assigned Schools
Amy Shattuck	Federal Programs Director	ext. 1054	avshattuck@mcpsmt.org	
Matt Bell	NAS Teacher	ext. 8634	mkbell@mcpsmt.org	Big Sky HS, Willard
Duran Caferro	Native American Specialist	ext. 1064	dcaferro@mcpsmt.org	Big Sky, Hawthorne, Jeanette Rankin
Dacia Griego	Native American Specialist	ext. 1068	dgriego@mcpsmt.org	Chief Charlo, Franklin, Rattlesnake, Russell
Melissa Hammett	Native American Specialist	ext. 1028	mshammett@mcpsmt.org	Seeley Swan HS, Washington MS
Ray Kingfisher	Native American Specialist	ext. 1047	rdkingfisher@mcpsmt.org	CS Porter, Hellgate HS, Meadow Hill, Sentinel HS
Lewis YellowRobe	Native American Specialist	ext. 1049	lyellowrobe@mcpsmt.org	Jefferson, Lewis & Clark, Lowell, Paxson
Glenda Weasel	Title VI/Data Support/ Native American Specialist	ext. 1063	gfwheel@mcpsmt.org	Willard Alternative HS

2020 - 2021 Event Calendar

Event	Date	Time	Location
Native American Heritage Day—Movie Night	Wednesday, September 23, 2020	5:30 - 8:30 PM	Ogren Park at Allegiance Field (Contact: Melissa Hammett)
Virtual Halloween Wellness Week	Wednesday, October 28th, 2020	5:00 - 7:00 pm	Online Event (Contact: Dacia Griego)
Winter Gathering	Friday, December 11, 2020	6:00-8:00 PM	Online Event (Contact: Ray Kingfisher)
Family Fun Time	Thursdays, January 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th; February 4th, 11th,	6:00-8:00pm	Online Event (Contact: Lewis YellowRobe)
Title VI Public Hearing	Tuesday, May 4, 2021	4:00-5:00PM	MCPS Admin Building—Rm 14 (Contact: Glenda Weasel)
Graduating Senior Dinner	Thursday, May 13, 2021	6:00-8:00 PM	Double Tree By Hilton Hotel Missoula Edgewater 100 Madison St. Missoula, MT 59802 (406)728-3100
End of the Year Gathering	Tuesday, June 8, 2021	3:30-6PM	Fort Missoula Park Meadowlark Pavillion (Contact: Duran Caferro)

New Location

The Native American Student Services Department has moved! You can now find us at:

**909 South Avenue West
Building B, Room 120
Missoula, MT 59801**

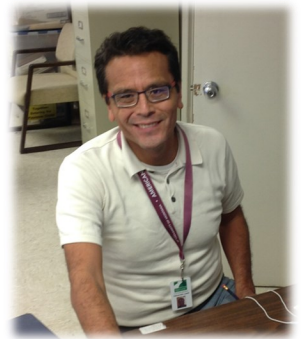


Our phone numbers and email addresses remain the same.

Lewis' Place by Lewis YellowRobe

READ ALOUD

In 2021, I read five Native written books to in-person classes at Lowell School and online classes. I also sent read-aloud videos to Lewis and Clark and Paxson schools. Classes watched *Thanks to the Animals*, *Kamik*, *the Girl and the Wolf*, *Rabbit's Snow Dance*, and *Nimoshom and His Bus*. I showed each in person and online class a video that showed Passamaquoddy, Inuit, Colville, Abenaki, and Cree video about a particular element of each tribe's culture or value system.

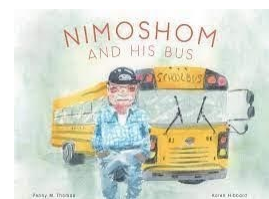
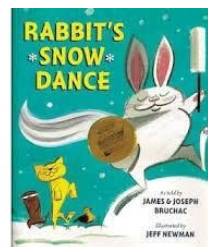
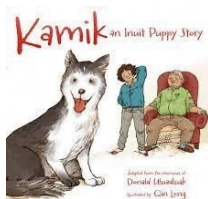
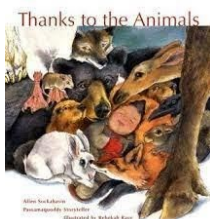


CULTURE BOXES

I'm implementing the Montana Humanities Foundation to update the Native Culture Boxes in the School District Library. Teachers use the boxes to teach students about Plains, Coastal, Woodland, and Desert tribes and culture.

Dacia Griego is making dolls with the dance regalia for a pow-wow box. The box will include a lesson plan to teach basics about dancing and pow-wows. The biggest challenge of the project is building Coastal Plank House, Woodland Long House, Tipi, or Hogan to show housing types among tribes. The second biggest challenge is to make parfleche containers for the Plains box. The Coastal Box will get totem pole figurines for the coastal longhouse. Every box will have updated lesson plans that include more up to date information and new learning sections.

Lewis





NOW VACCINATING MISSOULA COUNTY RESIDENTS AGES 12+ COVID-19 Vaccines

WALK-UP APPOINTMENTS DAILY AT THE SOUTHGATE MALL.
SCHEDULE + APPOINTMENTS ON WWW.COVID19.MISSOULA.CO.



COVID-19 VACCINE

Call 406-304-1763

for more information about
availability and appointments

OR

Sign up by filling out our
VACCINE SURVEY and
REGISTER as a client
@ ALLNATIONS.HEALTH

PROTECT YOURSELF
PROTECT YOUR COMMUNITY
#BEAGOODRELATIVE

Melissa's Healing Circle by Melissa Hammett

HAPPY END OF THE YEAR MCPS STUDENTS & FAMILIES!!!

It's definitely been some kind of year, hasn't it? Looking forward to the summer with family and a little more freedom compared to last year. Let's finish this school year off strong and with everything complete, that way we can enjoy those sun shiny days.

The MCPS Native American Student Services has been fortunate to host our first in person event, the Native American Senior Dinner a few weeks ago. It was a hit and our turn out was amazing. We will be hosting our final event June 8th, the End of the year Celebration. That will be fun and a great outdoor event. Plan to make it and have good eats.

This year I have got to go into schools and meet all kinds of littles at some of the schools. I have completed my testing at all the elementary schools and had my last lunch club at Washington Middle School 6/3/2021. It was wonderful to be able to feel some normalcy by getting the opportunity to get back into the schools.

Congratulations and good luck to the graduating seniors!!

See ya next year!

Melissa Hammett, M.ED.

Native American Specialist/ELL
Indian Ed. Department
Missoula County Public Schools
215 S. Sixth Street W., Admin Building
Missoula, MT 59801
406.728.2400 ext. 1028
mshammett@mcpsmt.org



Summer is
almost here.
Let's finish
strong!

*"Technology is best when it brings people together."
Matt Mullenweg, Social Media Entrepreneur*



MCPS Native American Student Services

End of Year Celebration


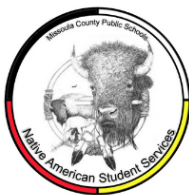
Celebrating the strength, healing, and resiliency of Missoula's Native Youth.




Join us for BBQ hot dogs and burgers,
3-on-3 basketball, and double ball.



TUESDAY, JUNE 8TH | 3:30-6PM
FORT MISSOULA PARK
MEADOWLARK PICNIC STRUCTURE



Contact: Duran Caferro | dcaferro@mcpsmt.org | 406.728.2400 ext. 1064
MCPS is not responsible for theft, injury or other incidents.





MCPS Native American Student Services End of Year Celebration

Celebrating the strength, healing, and resiliency of Missoula's Native Youth.



MCPS Native American Family 3-on-3 Basketball

Divisions: Grades 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

Teams must be co-ed with 3-5 athletes.

Teams check-in 3:30-4:30 | Games begin at 4:30.

Registration Required! Limited to 8 teams.

Double Ball Games


*All participants will get a prize provided by All Nations Health Center

Games from 5:00-6:00

No registration required.

IT IS A BLESSING TO BE TOGETHER. LET'S BE AS SAFE AS POSSIBLE!

COVID-19 protocols in place:

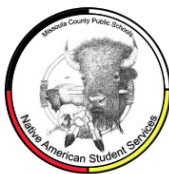
- 
- ☐ Provide your names and contact info at check in near the Meadowlark Picnic Structure.
 - ☐ Masks are required when within 6ft of a person outside of your group you arrived with.
 - ☐ We encourage using hand sanitizer and frequent washing of hands.
 - ☐ We respect the choice of athletes to wear or not wear masks while actively at play.
 - ☐ Follow signage and floor markers.

Stay home if you are experience any of these symptoms:

- ☐ Fever over 100.4 degrees
 - ☐ Chills
- ☐ Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- ☐ Cough (for people with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline)
 - ☐ New loss of taste and/or smell
 - ☐ Nasal congestion/runny nose
 - ☐ Fatigue
 - ☐ Body aches
 - ☐ Sore throat
 - ☐ New headache
 - ☐ Diarrhea, nausea, or vomiting


You may attend only if you and your student(s):

- ☐ have completed a self-screening and temperature check and are free of COVID-19 symptoms.
 - ☐ are not undergoing evaluation for SARS-CoV-2 infection (such as a pending test)
 - ☐ have not received a diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 infection in the prior 10 days
- ☐ have not been a close contact to someone with SARS-CoV-2 infection during the prior 10 days



Contact: Duran Caferro | dcaferro@mcpsmt.org | 406.728.2400 ext. 1064

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MCPS Native American Student Services **End of Year Celebration**


Celebrating the strength, healing, and resiliency of Missoula's Native Youth.

MCPS Native American Family 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament

Teams check-in 3:30-4:30 | Games begin at 4:30.

Registration Required! Limited to 8 teams.

3-on-3 Tournament Details



☐ Teams must pre-register by 3pm at June 7th at the following link:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdjOK-PL8TeraA3_hzBLEAmNZLCTOQITmJtriAQ1-NWsR4GG/viewform

☐ There is only time for 8 teams per division, first come first serve

☐ Divisions by grade of oldest athlete this school year:

- 3rd-5th Grade
- 6th-8th Grade
- 9th-12th Grade

☐ Teams must be co-ed with 3-5 athletes.

☐ Both a male and female athlete must be on the court at all times.


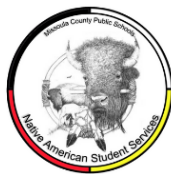

☐ Teams must check in on Tuesday, June 8th, at 3:30-4:30 at Fort Missoula Park

☐ Games begin at 4:30 and will go until around 7:15pm

☐ Brackets with game times will be provided

☐ Games will be 10 minutes each with free throws for tiebreakers

☐ Come hydrated and ready to ball!



Contact: Duran Caferro | dcaferro@mcpsmt.org | 406.728.2400 ext. 1064
MCPS is not responsible for theft, injury or other incidents.



Ok! Niksookowaaksi Tsa Niitaapi? By Raymond D. Kingfisher

(Hello My Relatives How is it Going?)

Ok! Niksookowaaksiiks,

The 2020-21 school year is coming to an end. Covid definitely changed a lot of things this past year. As I reflect back, I can only hope that I have helped the students through the tough times. Our families have had to endure so much. There has been plenty of loss and despair but we continue to move forward. The senior dinner was a good time. I got to see, in person, some of the young people that made the sacrifices to get that High School diploma. As I got up on the stage to speak I felt an overwhelming joy and pride for the young people. They were there smiling and enjoying their time with loved ones.



It reminded me of the old stories. The history of how resilient we as Native People are. A word in Nitspowahsinni (the real talk) "oomannistawaawahkaat," which describes "keep walking," we did not wait around for the buffalo to find us. We had to keep moving to survive, such as today, we must stay in search of knowledge and a means to survive. Today, we are seeing more and more Native People become Dr. 's, Lawyers, and professional people that can do the job and compete for the upper level positions. I wish the class of 2021 nothing but success, health and long life.

Due to Covid, I worked remotely this year. It was tough to do the things I found success in previous years. I did, however, compile a huge Native American resource in Google Classroom, something I think will be useful to the department and teachers in the future. I was able to do a Blackfoot language series, something I felt is needed and will continue to do next year. I believe cultural activities have such an overlooked high value. The teachings that are explained before the activities are values we have lived by for many, many years.

I am looking to have a better outlook for the next school year. I am excited about the potential of in-person activities, just being around the youth. I can't wait to get back into the gym, getting our future ballers some much needed skills and gym time. I can't wait to sit around the drum and sing songs with the youth. I can't wait to get out on the field and play some double ball or shinny. There are many things, good things, to look forward to as we keep walking forward. I encourage the parents to get the students involved in the Youth Groups and to live a healthy lifestyle. Have a wonderful summer! Go check out a ceremony, they are still alive and well. See you all next school year.

Ray



Join us on Facebook!

[Facebook.com/groups/mcpsNativeAmericanStudentServices](https://www.facebook.com/groups/mcpsNativeAmericanStudentServices)

[Facebook.com/groups/mcpsmtTribalLanguages](https://www.facebook.com/groups/mcpsmtTribalLanguages)

SUMMER PROGRAM 2021



TO INFINITY & BEYOND

Join us for a 3 week-long hybrid program!

Program available for eligible students enrolled at Browning, Missoula
Hellgate & Big Sky high schools

Participate via Zoom or socially distanced in-person.

To maintain safety, students will attend 3 weeks of programming
in their home community only.

Missoula June 21st - July 9th

Browning July 12th - 30th

Apply at:

<https://tinyurl.com/trioubumt>

Summer 2021 is open to current
and prospective UB students,
including those graduating from
8th grade this spring.

You'll enjoy:

Daily classes
Daily and weekly activities
Fun, food, and field trips
Whitewater rafting and
ropes course

Stoodis! by Duran Caferro

First, It has been an honor and a privilege to serve our students in this challenging year. I am absolutely floored by the strength, intelligence, and *adaptability* on display in our online and in person classrooms, as well as the hallways, homes and community. I have enjoyed connecting with students through various programs: read-alouds, lunch visits, morning affirmations and intentions, beading group, Native American Basketball Affinity Nights, and RISE.

If you know a student who has joined us for any of these programs, then you know the impact on student engagement and empowerment it has had. These students are absolutely inspiring! Students have given their input to school climate, Native American representation on the building and in the hallways, and the activities at our End of the Year Celebration, June 8th, 3:30-6:00 at Ft. Missoula.

With student input, we will have 3-on-3 basketball and the traditional team game double ball. You can find the link to pre-register your basketball team on the MCPS Native American Student Services Facebook page.

At Hawthorne Elementary I have been doing read-alouds with K-2. I have chosen titles and lessons that are from Native American authors, place characters in a modern setting, and highlight the first Essential Understanding Regarding Montana Indians:

There is great diversity among the twelve sovereign tribes of Montana in their languages, cultures, histories, and governments. Each tribe has a distinct and unique cultural heritage that contributes to modern Montana.

We have also begun to learn powwow vocabulary and etiquette. I look forward to next school year when, hopefully, it is safe to have Lunch groups for 3rd-5th graders.

Lastly, I would like to send a big “congratulations” to all our students and families on a successful year. It is said that the people of Alaska regard blueberries as medicine. The first harvest goes to elders and to children. Through western science we know that blueberries must produce a large amount of antioxidants (vitamins) in order to survive the harsh environment of Alaska. This story reminds me of all of our children.

**The year has been harsh. You are medicine.
Keep being blueberries!**

Duran Caferro (he, him, his)

MCPS Native American Community Specialist
MCPS Native American Student Services Dept.
(406)728-2400 ext. 1064 (M, W, F) 8091 (T, Th)
dcaferro@mcpsmt.org





All Nations Health Center

Apprenticeship Program

Looking for youth who are:

- American Indian/Alaska Native youth ages 15-19
- Interested in learning on the job skills from Home ReSource staff
- Willing to commit to a 10-week paid training Tuesday-Thursday

To request an application contact:

Dana Kingfisher
Native Connections & Tobacco
Program Coordinator
dkingfisher@allnations.health

Sign up today!

MONTANA URBAN NATIVE YOUTH RESILIENCE SUMMIT

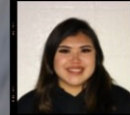


Step Up and Speak Out!

FEATURED SPEAKERS:



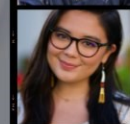
Brianna Bull Shows
Messengers for Health



Marlynn Cloud
Student/Musician



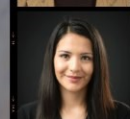
Chase Comes At Night
Entrepreneur



Maya Ditloff
TV Writer/Director



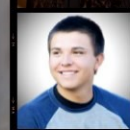
Jayson Fisher
Student/Musician



Tailyr Irvine
Photographer



Daliyah Killsback
Western Native Voice



Keaton Sunchild
Western Native Voice



Butte
Indian
Health
Clinic



JUNE 22-24, 1-5 PM

REGISTER AT:

<https://tinyurl.com/2ady7xhx>

#BeTheOneToHope

Data Guru by Glenda Weasel

Good Day to Everyone.

I have to thank all the Missoula Native American community in supporting our school endeavors for the school year 2020-2021. This certainly has been an interesting year. I have learned a lot from my co-workers on ways to work during this Covid 19 pandemic. I am a firm believer in the vaccination and encourage our Native American community to get theirs. I would really like to start the school year in the fall on a some-what normalcy. With that said the past few months have been very busy for me.

I would like to report that phase two of the Title VI grant is done and approved for another school year. Special thanks to Amy Shattuck and Lisa Coon with all their help in getting this done. We as the Native American Student Services Dept. have met with the Confederated Salish/Kootenai Tribal Council and there Education Team three times via Google meet and Zoom. We did three presentations to the Human Resource Council via Zoom, also. The Public Hearing was also done in the month of May via Google Meet.

I would like to congratulate all of our MCPS Native American Graduating seniors on their successful accomplishment in graduating this school year 2020-2021. The MCPS "Honoring Our NA Graduating Senior Dinner" was an awesome success. Big shout out to our Native American Student Services Team and the Title VI Parent Advisory Committee on this accomplishment.

This past 6 months Melissa Hammett and I have been working on a presentation with Shirley Lindburg on Native American students in the English Language Learners Program (ELL). Gathering the data has been very interesting. Can't wait to do the presentation.

I would like to thank and give a big shout out to Dacia Griego and my daughter, Fayanna Weasel with all their help in making the certificates, laminating them and cutting them. They got distributed in a timely manner to the schools and we only had a few mistakes to correct before school gets out. A big shout out to all our Missoula community organizations that we have collaborated with in our monthly events. We couldn't have done them without your support. Much appreciated.

I am really liking our new office and building. I wish everyone a very good summer and stay safe in all your travels.

Sincerely,

Glenda Weasel

*Title VI Indian Education Specialist/Data Support Staff
Native American Student Services Department
Missoula County Public Schools
909 South Ave. West
Bldg "B" Rm. 120
Missoula, MT 59801
(406)728-2400 ext. 1063
gfwweasel@mcpsmt.org*



2021

KIDS EAT FREE

at these locations

ALL SUMMER LONG!

MFB&CC Open Meal Sites

No meals at these locations on July 5

EmPower Place: June 14–Aug 30

Breakfast & Lunch: M-F / Supper: M, Tu, Th
M, Tu & Th: 10am–7pm / W & F: 10am–1pm

Kids Eat Free Bus: June 14–Aug 30

Breakfast & Lunch: M-F

- 11–11:20am: Linda Vista Apts
- 11:35–11:55am: Sission University Apts
- 12:10–12:30pm: Travois Village Mobile Park
- 12:45–1:15pm: Futura Mobile Park

Missoula Public Library: June 14–Aug 27

Breakfast & Lunch: M-F, 11:30am–1pm

Lolo School: June 9–Aug 20

Breakfast & Lunch: M-F, 11:30am–1pm

Council Groves Apts: June 14–Aug 19

Lunch: M–Th, 12:00–1:30pm

River of Life Church

June 14–Aug 27, M–F, not July 5

11–11:30am: Creekside Apartments
1405 E Broadway St, Missoula

11:45–12:15pm: East Missoula Lions Park
766 Michigan Ave, Missoula

12:30–1pm: W. Riverside Community Park
1305 Haaglund Dr, Milltown

Missoula County Public Schools

Breakfast & Lunch: M–F

June 14–Aug 14; not July 5

Breakfast: 8:30–10:30am

Lunch: 11am–1pm

Elementary Locations:

- Chief Charlo
- Lowell
- Franklin
- Russell

**Call 406.549.0543 for more info
or text SUMMER MEALS to 97779.**

All 2021 Meals are Grab-and-Go.

LEARN MORE: www.MissoulaFoodBank.org



MFBCC Community Resource List

<http://www.missoulafoodbank.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/COVID-19-RESOURCE-GUIDE-12-22-20-UPDATE.pdf>

Tansi Nitotemak! (Hello Friends!) by Dacia Griego

Tansi! Hello! I am the Native American Education Specialist for Chief Charlo, Franklin, Rattlesnake, and Russell Elementary Schools. I am working remotely this school year and providing online support to my assigned schools.

This school year has gone by so fast! I can't believe we are already wrapping things up for the 2020-2021 school year. It has been a challenging year as we learned to navigate the world and school community during a pandemic. I am so proud of all of our students who worked so hard and remained flexible and positive despite the many challenges they faced. We have so much to learn from our young people.

I recorded my last read aloud of the year and sent that to my Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grade friends. I read one of my favorite books, *Awasis and the World-Famous Bannock* by Dallas Hunt. I also recorded a reading of *Buffalo Bird Girl* by S.D. Nelson. This story tells of the childhood of Waheenee (Buffalo Bird Woman) who was a Hidatsa woman known for continuing her traditional way of life and passing on her cultural teachings, especially in regards to gardening and agriculture.

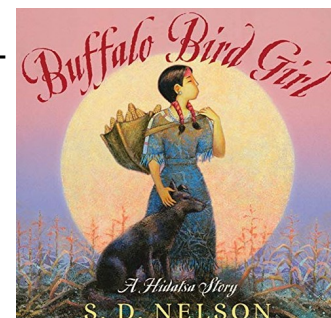
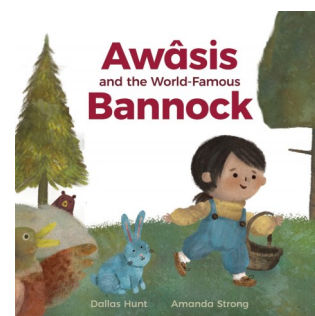
I have continued to co-lead the anti-bias working group called IVALUE. IVALUE is an acronym that stands for Inclusion, Validation, Action, Learning, Understanding, and Equity. The working group's purpose is to help MCPS move forward with creating a more inclusive workplace and school setting. We recognize that members of our school community must learn skills in order to be aware of and interrupt bias related to any marginalized group including (but not limited to) our Native American and Two Spirit community members. We want all staff and students to help make MCPS a safe, respectful and responsible learning environment.

IVALUE made a lot of progress this year! We had 65 participants complete our 4 part anti-bias training series. The training was provided by experts from Empower Montana, Indigenous Community Collaborative, and Montana Racial Equity Project. Participants included representatives from every MCPS school (principals, teachers, and staff), community members, MCPS parents, along with our Superintendent Dr. Rob Watson, Assistant Superintendent Russ Lodge, Federal Programs Director Amy Shattuck, and Board Member Wilena Old Person. IVALUE created an Incident Response Protocol meant to streamline the response to reports of discrimination in the school system. We have also started researching and analyzing data and collected tools and resources for teachers and staff. I look forward to continuing this important work!

Congratulations on a successful school year! I hope you have a safe and happy summer break! See you in the Fall!

Best wishes,

Miss Dacia



Dacia Griego, BSW (she/her)
Native American Education Specialist

dgriego@mcpsmt.org
406.728.2400 ext. 1068



@ALLNATIONSMISSOULA

WWW.ALLNATIONS.HEALTH

(406) 829-9515

Seedin' and Weedin'

learn the basics online with

Patrick Mangan

REGISTER HERE  <https://bit.ly/3x3KQOF>

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE A GARDEN BOX!

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKA NATIVE. 1ST OR 2ND DEGREE DESCENDANT
2. REGISTERED CLIENT AT ALL NATIONS HEALTH CENTER

TOPICS COVERED

<i>Watering & Weeds</i>	<i>Tuesday June 15th @ 6:00PM</i>
<i>Integrated Pest Management</i>	<i>Tuesday June 29th @ 6:00PM</i>
<i>Harvesting & Planning for Each Season</i>	<i>Tuesday July 13th @ 6:00PM</i>
<i>Field Trip</i>	<i>TBA</i>



Sponsored by
Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI)
& Native Connections

Contact Érica or Thomas
for more information
erubino@allnations.health
tmccclure@allnations.health

SAVE THE DATE



**AUGUST 13TH
INDIGENOUS
HERITAGE
CELEBRATION**



AUGUST 14TH

**5K FUN
RUN**

**N8VS GOT
TALENT**

Ogren Park Allegience Field

Title VI Parent Advisory Committee

The Title VI Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) is made up of parents, students, and teachers within the MCPS Native community. The Title VI PAC provides support to the MCPS Indian Education Dept. throughout the year and hosts the Native Senior Dinner at the end of each school year to honor that year's graduating class of Native American seniors.

The Parent Advisory Committee would like to express our gratitude to everyone who supported our fundraising efforts this year! We are so thankful to all who purchased raffle tickets, bid on auction items, and made donations. We had a very successful Senior Dinner this year and were so proud to honor our Native graduates and their families.

A huge thank you goes out to the following businesses who donated items to our virtual auction: Axmen, Tiffany Williams Photography, The Giggle Box, Lookout Throwing Co., Missoula Boxing Club, Alt 101.5, and Caleb Hill. We also would like to thank for the following Native artists who donated their priceless work to our auction: Melissa Hammett, Fayanna Weasel, Gisele Forrest, Latisha Buck Elk Thunder, Dana Kingfisher, Raymond Kingfisher, Crystal White Shield, Dacia Griego, and Lauren Small Rodriguez. And finally, a heartfelt thank you to the Human Resource Council Advisory Board who continues to support and sponsor this incredible event each year. It is a pleasure to work with them each year and to feel their genuine support for our students!

We have one vacancy open for a 2021-2022 Parent Representative. Parent/Guardian spots are filled by those who have at least one child who is an MCPS student with a completed Title VI ED 506 Indian Student Eligibility Certification Form. The child can be an enrolled Tribal Member or a 1st or 2nd degree descendent of an enrolled tribal member. PAC members serve for their choice of one, two, or three school years. Please send nominations for Parent Rep to PAC President, Dacia Griego at dgriego@mcpsmt.org

Children learn from what they see. We need to set an example of truth and action.

- Howard Rainer, Taos Pueblo-Creek

2020-2021 Title VI Parent Advisory Committee	
Name	Title
Dacia Griego	President
Duran Caferro	Vice President
Amber Shaffer	Secretary/Treasurer
Toni Alvernaz	Parent Rep
Stephen Chase	Parent Rep
Vacant	Parent Rep
Alina Espino	Student Rep
Barbara Frank	Teacher Rep

Title VI Parent Advisory Committee Meeting Dates	
Meetings are scheduled for the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6pm. All meetings will be held remotely via Google Meet until further notice. Contact Dacia Griego for a link to join.	
Date	Time
September 10, 2020	6:00-8:00 PM
October 1, 2020	6:00-8:00 PM
November 5, 2020	6:00-8:00 PM
December 3, 2020	6:00-8:00 PM
January 7, 2021	6:00-8:30 PM
February 3, 2021	6:00-8:00 PM
March 3, 2021	6:00-8:00 PM
April 7, 2021	6:00-8:00 PM
May 5, 2021	6:00-8:00 PM
June 2, 2021	6:00-8:00 PM



MCPS TITLE VI PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE & NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT 2020-2021 NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY



What do you feel are the most important needs of the Native students in Missoula County Public Schools? Please indicate your thoughts by placing a circle around the number.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Enhance problem solving and cognitive skills development and directly support attainment of state standards | 7. Increase college enrollment |
| 2. Decrease school drop-out rate | 8. Increase graduation rate |
| 3. Increase academic achievement | 9. Increase knowledge of cultural identity and awareness |
| 4. Increase activities for prevention of violence, suicide and substance abuse | 10. Increase Native American Language Instruction programs |
| 5. Increase At-Risk student support | 11. Increase parent participation |
| 6. Increase career readiness skills | 12. Increase school attendance rate |
| | 13. Increase school readiness |

14. Other suggestions: _____

Rank the three most important needs: _____

Please check the categories that describe you:

Native American ____ Yes ____ No ____

____ Parent/Guardian

____ Middle School Student

____ Community member

____ Elementary School Student

____ High School Student

____ Missoula County Public Schools District Employee

What do you think is working well in the Missoula County Public Schools Indian Education Department?

What are some areas that you would like to see addressed by the school district or services that you would like to see offered by the Indian Education Department?

Please drop this by or mail to:

Missoula County Public Schools
Native American Student Services Department
909 South Ave W
Missoula, MT 59801

OR email to: gfwheel@mcps.k12.mt.us or mshammett@mcps.k12.mt.us
Your voice is very important to us! Thank you!