



# Indian Education Department Newsletter



## Inside this issue:

◇ Staff Contact Information / School Assignments	2
◇ Smoke Signals by Melissa Hammett	
◇ Winter Gathering Powwow	3
◇ Oki Niksokowaaksi Tsa Niitaapi? By Raymond Kingfisher	4
◇ Data Guru by Glenda Weasel	5
◇ 2019-20 Event Calendar	6
◇ Halloween Carnival Success	
◇ Max Plumage Day: Phelan -McDermid Awareness	7
◇ Tansi Nitotem! By Dacia Griego	8
◇ Lewis' Place by Lewis YellowRobe	9
◇ The Teacher's Corner by Matt Bell	
◇ Sunday Funday	10
◇ The Morning Star by Crystal White Shield	11
◇ Title VI Parent Advisory	12
◇ Needs Assessment Survey	13



"Let us put our minds together to see  
what we can build for our children"  
—Chief Sitting Bull

## Cultural Competency in the Classroom: Supporting Native American Students

On November 21st, over 70 MCPS faculty and staff attended the Cultural Competency in the Classroom: Support Native American Students session to learn how to work best with Native American students in the classroom.

Participants learned how their cultural perspectives and backgrounds might differ from Native American students' cultural experiences and history. Teachers may have a different understanding of eye contact, time management, and family background that might clash with a Native American student's experiences.

While navigating these differences in the classrooms, some teachers might use verbal and nonverbal, slights, snubs, or insults to manage student behavior. Participants learned how to "disarm" these micro-aggressions by acknowledging and talking about the differences.

The presentation included two stories about Native American students and how their cultural background affects their schooling. One student frequently misses school because she travels back to her reservation to participate in spiritual and community events. Another student is consistently late for school since she takes her younger siblings to school before she arrives late at school. These stories helped teachers and staff understand one aspect of chronic attendance problems.

After the session, the participants wrote in an exit survey about their learnings such as being more aware of personal and student cultural norms, multigenerational family units, and identifying micro-aggressions. They also wanted to know how to access more education resources to use in the classroom to support Native students and additional workshops that focused on learning more teaching strategies.



Participants at the *Cultural Competency in the Classroom: Supporting Native American Students* learning session listen as Ashton Smith reflects on the diversity among Native American students.

*Lewis Yellow Robe, Native American Specialist*

## 2019-20 Staff Contact Information & School Assignments

Name	Title	Phone 728-2400	Email	Assigned Schools
Karen Allen	Executive Regional Director	ext. 1054	kallen@mcps.k12.mt.us	
Crystal White Shield	Native American Specialist	ext. 1064	cwhiteshield@mcps.k12.mt.us	Big Sky, Hawthorne, Jeanette Rankin, Washington
Dacia Griego	Native American Specialist	ext. 1068	dgriego@mcps.k12.mt.us	Chief Charlo, Franklin, Rattlesnake, Russell
Glenda Weasel	Title VI/NAS/Data Support	ext. 1063	gfweasel@mcps.k12.mt.us	Willard Alternative HS
Lewis Yellow Robe	Native American Specialist	ext. 1049	lyellowrobe@mcps.k12.mt.us	Jefferson, Lewis & Clark, Lowell, Paxson
Matt Bell	NAS Teacher	ext. 8634	mkbell@mcps.k12.mt.us	Big Sky HS, Willard
Melissa Hammett	Native American Specialist	ext. 1028	mshammett@mcps.k12.mt.us	Seeley Swan HS
Ray Kingfisher	Native American Specialist	ext. 1047	rdkingfisher@mcps.k12.mt.us	CS Porter, Hellgate HS, Meadow Hill, Sentinel HS

### Smoke Signals by *Melissa Hammett*

Oki

I am the Native American Specialist for Seeley Swan high school and visit the school every three weeks. Weather permitting, my visits will change based off of roads and conditions. I work closely with the English Language Learner Program (ELL) and will continue throughout the year. My focus is on the Native American students associated with the ELL program mainly in Elementary and Middle School. I am excited to be working with the ELL program and collecting this data. This is a new venture that the MCPS Indian Ed. Department is collaborating on with the ELL program that, I believe, will benefit all those involved especially Native American Students.

Blackfeet Words:

Month: December “oo ts sto yii wa” “When The Cold Comes”

Shape: Circle “O’ taki”

Number: Two “Na-To-Ka”

Day of the Week: Monday “Issikatoyi-kistsiko” “2<sup>nd</sup> Holy Day”

Contact Information:

Melissa Hammett

Email: [mshammett@mcps.k12.mt.us](mailto:mshammett@mcps.k12.mt.us)

Phone: (406) 728-2400 Ext. 1028





Missoula County Public Schools  
Indian Education Department  
PRESENTS:



# 2019 Winter Gathering Social Powwow

*Friday December 13, 2019*

*Russell School, 3216 S. Russell St. Missoula MT*

*5pm-9pm*

- ♦ MUIHC/MCPS Community Potluck feed (5-6)pm
- ♦ Main Dish: Turkey, Ham, Potatoes, Gravy, Bread, & Salad.
- ♦ Please bring a dish to share with the community
- ♦ Grand Entry 6:00 pm. ~ Singing/Drumming/Dancing till 9:00pm
- ♦ Vendors~\$10 a table plus donated item. Limited space.
- ♦ MCPS Indian Ed. Dept. Raffle Plus family fun!
- ♦ ALL DANCERS & DRUM GROUPS WELCOME!

**Dance Categories Sponsored by MUIHC:**

**Men's & Women's Golden Age PAID**

**Men's Combined, Women's Combined, Teen Boys Combined, Teen Girls combined, Jr. Boys Combined, Jr. Girls Combined Categories: 1st, 2nd, 3rd**

**Tiny Tots Paid: sponsored by Crystal WhiteShield & family**

**UGLY "MOST SACRED" SWEATER CONTEST~ADULTS ONLY**

**First 7 Drums Registered will be Paid (MUST HAVE 4 SINGERS)**

**Student Potato Dance Contest**

**Cake Walk (2) \$1.00 a number**

*MC: Rodney First Strike*

*AD: Matt Sheka*

WE ASK THAT YOU  
PLEASE SIGN IN AS  
YOU ENTER

Melissa Hammett 406.728.2400 EXT. 1028

Vendors: Dacia Griego 406.728.2400 EXT. 1068



**ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!**

Not Responsible for Child Care, Accidents, Injuries or Theft.

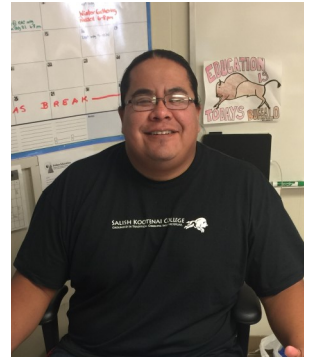


## Oki Niksokowaaksi Tsa Niitaapi? *by Raymond D. Kingfisher*

(Hello My Relatives How Is It Going?)

Oki Niiksokowaaksiiksi

Wow! October and November flew by. We are in December and the students seem to be ready for the winter break, as I am. I have been opening the gym for the students every Friday in hopes of getting them ready for winter sports. The goal with that is to see some of the students out there playing on the hardwood for the basketball teams around town. In the high schools, we will see our students on the boys and girls teams this year. There are also students out there wrestling and will be competing for top honors. If you can get out and watch these students participate in those activities, please do so.



In the schools, there has been the usual ups and downs. I see a lot of the student's home life coming into play. I am a great listener with the students and they tell me quite a bit of what is going on in the homes. I try and use my experiences growing up to help them cope with some of that. It took me a long time to grow up and see that having "fun" has to be put aside to responsibilities. I have been talking a lot with the students about goals and looking ahead. In seriousness, I know they are young, some not all, are just trying to survive and get by.

By this time in the year I know which students need attention. I currently have 274 Native American students in the four schools that I work at, Sentinel, Hellgate, Meadow Hill and C.S. Porter. So, if you are getting emails from me I am only trying to help your student. Do not take it as an attack, as I am only doing my job. I see a lot of potential in these young people, they all have skills and talent in some area. They just need that positive support from all areas to be successful. The Missoula Urban Indian Health Center has some great programming for families to attend. I think getting people out there to meet people in the community would greatly enhance our Native community.

With the holiday season in full swing make sure you are taking advantage of any gift programs and food give away. The school Family Resource Centers can help in some way, contact them if you or your student should need anything. The Indian Education Department is hosting a powwow on Friday, December 13 2019 at Russell elementary. Come on out and enjoy a community potluck meal and watch or participate in the contest dancing. I hope you all have a wonderful holiday.

Raymond Kingfisher

## Data Guru by *Glenda Weasel*

“Tansi”: I have been working on all the data enrollment numbers for the months of August, September, and October and rechecking to make sure I am accurate in my calculations. Tribal Affiliation data is almost complete. My goal is to have this project done by the end of December 2019.

The last of the remaining MT Tribal flags have been ordered for the last five schools for MCPS District. We then will have all MT Tribal flags in all of our Missoula County Public Schools.



Thank you to Anne Douglas and Dana Kingfisher in coming to Willard Alternative High School to do their presentation to the Native American students. I was glad to see the students engaging in their answers to the questions that were being asked.

The Halloween Carnival was a success and I am proud to report that according to our sign in sheets we had a total of 333 community members attend and support this event. I would like to acknowledge all who participated and dressed in Halloween costumes in support of our event. I would also like thank all the volunteers who volunteered and helped to make our event a success.

For the month of October I went with Melissa Hammett to visit with our Native American students out at Seeley Swan High School. We went on the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

On November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Michelle Guzman, University of Montana Director of American Indian Student Services came and presented to Willard 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> grade students on thinking about deadline dates for applications to colleges and university.

I hope to see everyone at our next event The Winter Gathering on Friday December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at Russell Elementary.

***Glenda Weasel***

***Title VI Native American Specialist / Data Support Staff***

*MCPS Indian Education Department*

*Administrative Building B2*

*215 S. 6<sup>th</sup> St. West*

*Missoula, MT 59801*

**(406)728-2400 ext. 1063**

[gfweasel@mcps.k12.mt.us](mailto:gfweasel@mcps.k12.mt.us)

## 2019-2020 EVENT CALENDAR

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
<b>Native American Heritage Week Welcome Back Community Event</b>	<b>Wednesday, September 25, 2019</b>	6:00-8:00 PM	Lewis & Clark Elementary School (Contact: Dacia Griego)
<b>Halloween Carnival</b>	<b>Friday, October 25, 2019</b>	6:00-8:00 PM	Franklin Elementary School (Contact: Raymond Kingfisher)
<b>Winter Mini Powwow</b>	<b>Friday, December 13, 2019</b>	6:00-8:00 PM	Russell Elementary School (Contact: Melissa Hammett)
<b>Sunday Funday</b>	<b>Sundays, (January 5, 12, 26) (February 2, 23)(March 1), 2020</b>	1:00-3:00 PM	CS Porter Middle School (Contact: Lewis YellowRobe)
<b>Native Youth Powwow</b>	<b>Saturday, March 28, 2020</b>	Grand Entry 12:00 and 6:00 PM	Sentinel High School (Contact: Glenda Weasel)
<b>Title VI Public Hearing</b>	<b>Wednesday, May 6, 2020</b>	5:30—7pm	MCPS Admin Building—Rm 14 (Contact: Glenda Weasel)
<b>Graduating Senior Dinner</b>	<b>Thursday, May 14, 2020</b>	6:00-8:00 PM	Double Tree By Hilton Hotel Missoula Edgewater 100 Madison St. Missoula, MT 59802 (406)728-3100 (Contact: Crystal White Shield)
<b>End of the Year Gathering</b>	<b>Friday, June 5th, 2020</b>	4:00-6:00 PM	Bonner Park (Contact: Dacia Griego)

## Halloween Carnival Success!

Our Halloween Carnival was a huge success with over 300 in attendance. The costumes were amazing -- we had superheroes, villains, Oompa Loompas, unicorns, and more! Congratulations to the winners of our costume and dance contests and to the door prize winners. We hope you all had a great time and a safe Halloween!



We couldn't pull off this event without help. A huge THANK YOU goes out to the following groups and organizations:

- Missoula Urban Indian Health Center
- Turner Farms
- UM AIBL
- UM Kyi-Yo Club
- UM Upward Bound



And finally, THANK YOU to our amazing community members who donated cakes for the cakewalk and cooked for our spaghetti feed! We appreciate your support!

## Max Plumage Day: Phelan-McDermid Awareness

On October 22, 2019 we celebrated Phelan-McDermid Syndrome Awareness Day here in Missoula. Some of you may wonder why we celebrate this day. In 2018 Mary Plumage, a parent and MCPS staff member, wrote to Mayor Engen and requested a proclamation for this day. She was not alone in doing this. Across the states and around the world other families were stepping forward and joining together to make this day a day of awareness. Mayor Engen approved the request and every year on Oct. 22nd we wear green to join 23 landmarks worldwide that shine green and 33 states/towns in bringing awareness to Phelan-McDermid Syndrome.



*"Max" written on a playground fence at  
Russell Elementary.*

Max is 1 in 2,255 people worldwide that have Phelan-McDermid. There is not one specific condition with this syndrome. It comes down to genetics. It varies how it affects each person. How does it affect Max? Like most people with Phelan McDermid, Max is non verbal. Max communicates in other ways such as sign language or his favorite is giving high fives. Max does know a very important word, "Mom." Max needs assistance in other areas like walking, feeding, and daily activities. As of now there is no cure for Phelan-McDermid, but researchers continue to work hard in hope of finding one.

At Russell Elementary, our former principal, Cindy Christensen declared October 22nd as "Max Plumage Day." At Russell we celebrated with hot chocolate before school, had a high five tunnel and ended with a flag song sung by Dustin Whitegrass. Max loves the American flag. Thank you to all who supported our student and his family.

On October 22 we had 23 landmarks worldwide that were shining green and 33 states/towns that have proclamations.

*Mary Plumage, parent and MCPS staff*



*Russell Elementary School and the Indian Education Department celebrating  
Phelan-McDermid Syndrome Awareness Day with Max Plumage and his family.*

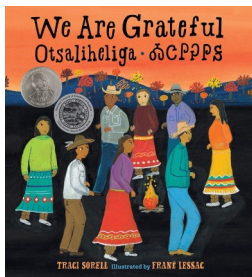


## Tansi Nitotem! *by Dacia Griego*



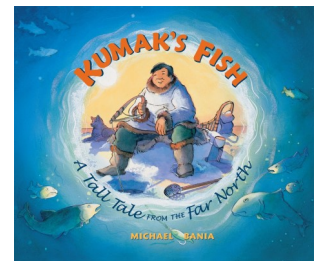
Tansi! Hello! Fall went by so quickly and winter is here with snow and cold weather. Parents, all MCPS schools have Family Resource Centers (FRC) where you can get connected with resources like school supplies, food pantry staples, hygiene items, and warm weather gear for your children. Please don't hesitate to contact your school's FRC or Native American Specialist if this is something you need help with.

My Read Aloud Program with kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grade is going well. I have been happy to receive positive feedback from teachers that the stories and format are working well for their classes and the students are enjoying our Read Aloud time. I spend time before each story talking about the different tribes reflected in that month's story. So far this year students at Chief Charlo, Franklin, Russell, and Rattlesnake Elementary Schools have learned about the Cree, Cherokee, and Inuit people. I share both traditional and modern facts about each tribe and talk about similarities and differences between each. The students ask great questions and often reflect on ways they relate to each tribe.



In November I read *We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga* by Traci Sorrell. The author, Traci Sorrell, is a citizen of the Cherokee tribe and shares Cherokee traditions and culture throughout this beautiful children's book. The story illustrates many reasons (both big and small) why the Cherokee people show gratitude throughout the year. After the story students had the opportunity to share something that they felt gratitude for. Most students were thankful for their families, friends, pets, teachers, and schools.

For the month of December I am reading *Kumak's Fish: A Tall Tale from the Far North* by Michael Bania. The students are having fun interacting with the story by moving their bodies from side to side as our main character, Kumak, struggles with his fishing hook. With winter approaching, students are showing interest in the arctic environment and relating to their own winter experiences. Some students have been inspired to share some hilarious tall tales of their own!



Lunch groups are up and running at my schools. Each group is run a little differently based on the size of the group and the students' interests. Some of our activities have corresponded with the Read Aloud book for the month. For example, in November we did an activity page called "Seasons of Gratitude" that went along with *We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga*. The page is divided into four and gives space to draw something that we feel thankful for in each season. Students had fun thinking about each season and sharing their drawings with each other. I am enjoying the time I get to spend visiting with the students and getting to know each other.

I hope to see many of you at our Winter Gathering on Friday, December 13th!

**Dacia Griego**, *Native American Specialist*

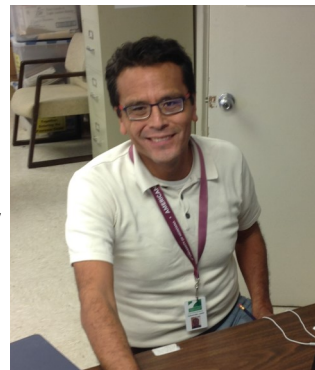
406-728-2400 ext. 1068; [dgriego@mcpsmt.k12.mt.us](mailto:dgriego@mcpsmt.k12.mt.us)



## Lewis' Place *by Lewis Yellow Robe*

### READ ALOUD

I read *Bigfoot and Lightning Bug* by Donnel Barlow. Barlow, Yurok Tribal member, writes about a friendship between Bigfoot and the girl and how she can help take care of forest animals. Before the reading, the students learned about wildlife habitat. The readings took place at Paxson, Lowell, Lewis and Clark, and Jefferson School in the Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup>, and 2<sup>nd</sup> students.



### STAR LAB

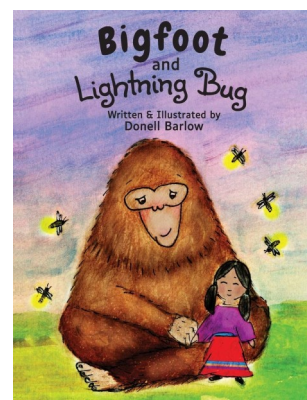
Lowell School hosted a Native American themed Family Engagement Night. Over 150 people attended the event. At the event, 88 people viewed the constellations in a portable planetarium. They heard the following tribal star stories:

Crow: Seven Stars – Seven Bulls (Big Dipper) Who Protect a Boy (North Star);

Dine: Male Revolver (Big Dipper), Female Revolver (Cassiopeia), Central Fire (North Star).

Blackfeet: Scarface – Morning Star, Sun, Moon, and Wolf Trail (Milky Way).

Lowell School sponsors a monthly Family Engagement Night that all families can attend that serves a no-cost dinner and indoor and outdoor activities.



**Lewis Yellow Robe**, *Native American Specialist*

406-728-2400 ext. 1049; lyellowrobe@mcpsmt.k12.mt.us

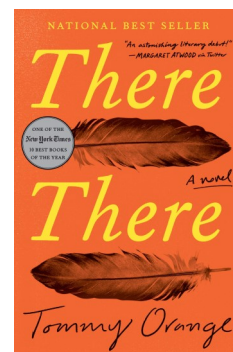
## The Teacher's Corner *by Matt Bell*

Oki!

Mr. Bell's Native Studies class is moving through history and looked at Resistance movements from the Shawnee, Cherokee and Apache. Very soon, we'll be covering more of the plains and Montana specifically.

Matt's English classes have finished Tommy Orange's novel, *There There* recently. It was a good segue to talk about Alcatraz, Powwows and other caddy things.

Have a good day out there ya'll,  
Matt Bell





Forward Thinking, High Achieving.

## Missoula County Public Schools Indian Education Department



# SUNDAY FUNDAY

**When:** Sundays, January 5, 12, 26; February 2 & 23; and March 1, 2020

**Where:** C.S. Porter Middle School, 2510 Central, Missoula, MT

**Time:** 1—3 p.m.

**Who:** Youth (10 and under must be accompanied by an adult).

**What:**

- ⇒ Native American Traditional Game Equipment Making and Playing  
(Make the Stick Jump, Bone Buzz, Doubleball, Kickbags, Ring The Stick, Hoop/Arrow/Dart)
- ⇒ Basketball & Kickball
- ⇒ Graduation Cap Beading & Crafts  
(Families should provide own materials since current supplies are limited.)



Missoula Urban Indian Health Center



## The Morning Star by Crystal White Shield

E-peve'eseeva! ("It is a good day" - Cheyenne)      Eaéneve. ("It is winter." – Cheyenne)

I have my Read-Aloud programs up and running at Jeannette Rankin and Hawthorne Elementary Schools. Stories that been read to the K-2 students are:

- Her Seven Brother by Paul Goble
- The Gift of the Sacred Dog by Paul Goble

In my lunch groups at the Elementary Schools, I have working on Blackfeet Numbers and using them in a number game called, Leaping Frog Math. I have a lot of students in both schools that are Blackfeet. The student rolls a dice and has to name the number they rolled like "5! Nii-sii-too!", then proceed to count from 1-5 in the Blackfeet language, to move spaces on the game board. Kids are really enjoying the game!

At Washington Middle School, the students went over Powwow Etiquette and touched on the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples. The students have been a little more proactive as they start to find the voices. I encourage students to bring forward current events or issues that they have interests in, so that we can utilize that time to have a student led discussion. I'm more than happy to facilitate any interests in Native History or Current Native issues so that the students can brainstorm, debate, and share their own oral history passed down to them.

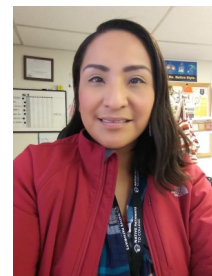
At Big Sky High School, students were able to meet with Dana Kingfisher and Ann Douglas to discuss a reformed Native Youth Council. Data was collected from the students to bring forward subjects and activities that they would like to be a part of, and/or participate in.

Finally, I'd like to share with you all that my family and I were able to travel to Colorado during Thanksgiving weekend to participate in the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Sand Creek Spiritual Healing Run where members of the Northern Cheyenne (MT), Northern Arapahoe (WY), and Southern Cheyenne-Arapaho (OK) tribes came together in solidarity to run from the Sand Creek Massacre site, near Eads, CO, to the Colorado State Capital, in Denver, CO. This was very moving to be a part of something so powerful! My family are direct descendants on both my Cheyenne side from Chief Black Kettle, and from my Arapaho side from Chief Bull Bear. Participants/descendants ran for the nearly 500 Cheyenne and Arapaho that were murdered, raped, slaughtered in this atrocious act 155yrs ago, on November 29, 1864. Most of the victims were the elderly, women, and children. On December 1, 2019, Denver City and County has proclaimed November 27 – December 1 as Sand Creek Memorial Days, to bring more awareness to the dark history surrounding the events of the Sand Creek Massacre. I'm thankful that we were able to be a part of the run this year! My family has been in mourning after the loss of my daughter, Allison Eagle Speaker, who was a Kindergarten student at Russell Elementary School last year, and most recently, the loss of my dad, Raymond White Shield. This was important for my family and I continue on our healing journey, while also saying lots of prayers for our ancestors and our people. I'm honored to say that I represented not only my family, but also the Missoula Native American community.

During the MCPS Indian Ed's Winter Gathering, my family and I will be sponsoring the Tiny Tot categories in honor of our daughter, Daisy Eagle Speaker. Her birthday will be that following day! She will be turning 6 years old. Daisy is a Kindergarten student at Russell Elementary School, and is in Mrs. Schraeder's monkey's class. We invite all Tiny Tots to come and dance with Daisy!

I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday!

Néá'eše. Haho! Thank you.



*This is my sister, Raelene White Shield, and I on the final day of the Sand Creek Memorial run. I am holding the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma flag.*



## Title VI Parent Advisory Committee

The PAC has been very busy planning and fundraising for the 2020 Native American Student Senior Dinner. In September we had our first fundraiser, a Frybread Friday Indian Taco sale. We raised the largest amount of money ever raised during a Frybread Friday to date during that sale! A follow-up frybread and Indian Taco sale is being planned for the spring, during the MT Class C boys' basketball tournament in March.

Our last fundraiser was a football poll for the Griz vs. Cat "Brawl of the Wild" game. That was a 50/50 fundraiser. We plan to have another football poll in February for the Super Bowl.

The PAC Committee members will be at the Winter Gathering Powwow on December 13th. We will be raffling a Christmas Dinner with all the fixings. All proceeds go toward the Senior Dinner.

Please let PAC know if you're interested in helping with other fundraising efforts throughout the year! Senior families are encouraged to get involved with any activities PAC will be doing. We are extending an invitation to parents of HS Seniors to a Parent Meeting on January 8th at 5:30pm - 6:30pm.



<b><u>2019-2020 Title VI</u></b> <b><u>Indian Education Parent Advisory Committee</u></b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>
Crystal White Shield	President
Benji Headswift	Vice President
Lisa Coon	Parent Rep. and Treasurer
Dacia Griego	Parent Rep. and Secretary
Toni Alvernaz	Parent Representative
Stephan Chase	Parent Representative
Bella Lemus	Student Representative
Vacant	Teacher Representative

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

*- Howard Rainer, Taos Pueblo-Creek (2012)*

**PAGE 12**

### **TITLE VI** **PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE** **MEETING DATES**

Administration Building is located at 215 S. 6th Street W.,  
B2 entrance is on eastside of building.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>
September 4, 2019	6:00-8:00 PM
October 2, 2019	6:00-8:00 PM
November 6, 2019	6:00-8:00 PM
December 4, 2019	6:00-8:00 PM
January 8, 2020	5:30 - 7:30 PM
February 5, 2020	5:00 - 7:00 PM
March 4, 2020	5:00 - 7:00 PM
April 1, 2020	5:00 - 7:00 PM
May 6, 2020	5:00 - 7:00 PM
June 3, 2020	5:00 - 7:00 PM





# MCPS TITLE VI PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE & INDIAN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT 2019-2020 NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY



What do you feel are the most important needs of the Indian 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 category(ies) that describe you (check all that apply):

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?

Are there 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  
Indian Ed. Department B2  
215 S. 6th Street West  
Missoula, MT 59801

OR email to: [gfw easel@mcps.k12.mt.us](mailto:gfw easel@mcps.k12.mt.us) or [mshamm ett@mcps.k12.mt.us](mailto:mshamm ett@mcps.k12.mt.us)

Your voice is very important to us! Thank you!