







January 1, 2019

	41-1-	
Inside	τηις	issue:

Contents	
Tsa nii ta pii—Ray Kingfisher	1
Tsa nii ta pii—cont'd	2
Staff Contact Information 2018-19 Parent Advisory Committee	3
2019 Native Youth Powwow Poster (subject to change)	4
Chewing the grass— Stacy Thacker Event Calendar	5
Data Guru—Glenda Weasel The Teacher's Corner	6
PAC Needs Assessment form	7
Teacher's Corner—Matt Bell	8
Lewis's Place–Lewis Yellowrobe	9
Smoke Signals–Melissa Hammett	10
Cody Munson—Cody Munson	11
Data for 2018	12-13

Tsa nii ta pii? - by Raymond Kingfisher

MISSOULA COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS ard Thinking, High Achievi

Oki Nikso'kowaaksi (hello my relatives) we made the half way mark of the 2018-19 school year. Before you know it springtime will be here and we will be sending our seniors off into the world. In order for these students to make it to that point we must prepare and encourage the younger students to "try hard" (iikaakimaat). I ask that you parents/guardians set an example for not only your young people but all the young people of our Indian community here in Missoula.

As a young kid growing up on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation I attended the Blackfeet Boarding School. There we were given a bed, some clothes, and meals. The best part of attending the dorm was that there was a gym. Basketball is one of the big sports on the reservation. You hear of all the triumphs and tribulation as young people make their legacy while playing sports in school. That was my goal, to one day be one of the best players to play in the community.

I remember there was an eighth grade team from the dorm. These young men were destined to be great and had high hopes of winning a reservation title and in the future a state championship. Tournament time came, myself and all the young ballers were hyped for the Boarding Dorm Eagles to beat these teams from around the reservation, especially the in-town Browning kids. You see, to some of our peers us kids at the dorm were deemed poor, shaggy, rough, hoods and homeless Indians. So we kind of had a grudge and something to prove.

The day of the tournament Coach Juneau and Coach Douglas called all the players into the T.V. room for a meeting. He broke the bad news that five of the ten players on that eighth grade team were ineligible to play. Coach Juneau started handing out jerseys to all us younger kids while telling us the importance of having the grades to be able to play. To the older kids he said, "You maybe the best basketball player on the reservation but if you cannot earn the grades in school you will not be able to get on the court." Then he said to us younger ones, "you must always be prepared and ready to step up to the challenge." As a young person I used these words as encouragement throughout my school day basketball career. That day we did our best against the other teams but came out on the losing end.

Coach Sampson Juneau and Coach Douglas were mentors for all of us young men down at the dorm. They taught us about life and encouraged us to do our best in all that we do. We did not always have the best things but we had what we needed to be successful it was about putting those tools to use. From this experience I started to look ahead at things and prepare for anything that may come about. To this day I enjoy asking Coach Juneau for advice and visiting with him. Coach Douglas sadly took his life a few years after that tournament. With the help of the men in my family and community I don't think I would have made it through. I observed a lot of the good and the bad and watched as some people's boat sailed and some peoples sank, sometimes miserably.

Tsa nii ta pii? - by Ray Kingfisher cont'd

So today, I try and be the mentors that I encountered for these young people. I encourage them to do well at all they do. I try and help them and advocate for their success. I have met some very good students who just need a little coaching and those words of advice. I hope we all can start sharing these experiences with our students. We all come from different places and have had different experiences, good and bad, that a lesson can be taught from. Try and get these kids off their electronics, talk with them, eat with them, laugh with or at them, let them laugh at you. We are all learning and growing in our community.

In the middle schools I have been monitoring grades and attendance of all students who have identified as Native American. I have around 170 students in those schools so I do not get to talk to them all each week. I do have a lot of students attending the lunch gatherings that are held at each school. I have met a lot of new students and have said goodbye to a few also. I continually encourage the ones that seek me out and tell me what they need. The school resources have helped me greatly in doing so.

In October the department hosted the "Spooky Scary Halloween Round dance" at Meadow Hill Middle School. This event had an all-time high in attendance. There were many great costumes wore by the students and the participation by not only the Indian students but the non-Native kids were out there as well. All in all the event was a success and the community gave great reviews about it.

In December we hosted the "Winter Gathering" this event was a round dance but was discussed and changed to a mini-powwow. We approached the Missoula Urban Indian Center Board of Trustees and asked if they would like to collaborate with this event and they did. Without the help of the MUIHC I do not think we would have had the success we did. I think our community strengthens when we collaborate on these great things.

With that, I wish you all Happy Holidays and Merry New Year! If you have any questions about anything I do at the Middle School level, Porter, Meadow Hill and Washington, please feel free to contact me. I encourage you parents/guardians to come in and check out one of the lunch gatherings. I am working with the schools to do some presentations about sensitivity to Indian culture and ways. If you have any input or anything you would like to see let me know. Have a good day! Raymond Kingfisher

Raymond Kingfisher Native American Specialist C.S. Porter, Meadow Hill, and Washington 728-2400 X1047 or rdkingfisher@mcps.k12.mt.us Facebook: MCPS Indian Education

Mission: Help Native American students achieve academically, culturally, and socially to graduate and become successful lifelong learners.

2018-19 Staff Contact Information and School Assignments

Name	Title	Phone 728-2400	Email	Assigned Schools
Karen Allen	Executive Regional Direc- tor/Indian Ed. Dept. Supervisor	Ext. 1054	kallen@mcps.k12.mt.us	
Cody Munson	Native American Specialist	Ext. 1064	cmunson@mcps.k12.mt.us	Big Sky High School, Hawthorne, Jeanette Rankin, Lowell
Lewis YellowRobe	Native American Specialist	Ext. 1049	lyellowrobe@mcps.k12.mt.us	Lewis & Clark, Paxson, Jefferson, Seeley Swan
Melissa Hammett	Hellgate and Sentinel High School Native American Stud- ies Teacher/Title VI Native American Specialist	Ext. 1028	mshammett@mcps.k12.mt.us	Hellgate High School and Sentinel High School (teacher)
Ray Kingfisher	Native American Specialist	Ext. 1047	rdkingfisher@mcps.k12.mt.us	CS Porter, Meadow Hill, & Washington Middle School
Stacy Thacker	Native American Specialist	Ext. 1068	sthacker@mcps.k12.mt.us	Chief Charlo, Franklin, Rattlesnake, and Russell Elementary
Glenda Weasel	Title VI/Native American Spe- cialist/Data Support Staff	Ext. 1063	gfweasel@mcps.k12.mt.us	Willard Alternative High School
Matt Bell	NAS Teacher	Ext. 8634	mkbell@mcps.k12.mt.us	Big Sky HS, Willard AHS

2018-2019 Title VI										
Indian Education Parent Advisory Committee New membership as of November 2016										
Name Title Email										
Rebecca BearCub	President	rebecca_bearcub_goddard@yahoo.com								
Crystal White Shield	Vice President	crystalwhiteshield@gmail.com								
Matt Bell	Teacher Representative and Secretary	mattbell23@gmail.com								
Lisa Coon	Parent Representative and Treasurer	coon.lisa@gmail.com								
Moses Yellowrobe III	Parent Representative	moses.yellow.robe@gmail.com								
Mariah Maxwell-Hawley	Parent Representative	mmaxwell-hawley@mcps.k12.mt.us								
A. Vegas Longtree	Student Representative									
Student Representatives	vacant									



SATURDAY MARCH 16, 2019 SENTINEL HIGH SCHOOL, MISSOULA, MONTANA 901 S. Ave. West, Missoula, MT 59801 GRAND ENTRY 12PM AND 6PM

MC: KEVIN KICKINGWOMAN, Starr School, Montana AD: BJ HAMMETT, Ft. Belknap, Montana STUDENT HOST DRUM: HEART BUTTE JRS, Heart Butte, Montana ADULT HOST DRUM: PICKED EACH SESSION HEAD YOUNG MEN DANCERS: Michael Weasel and Andre Lamb HEAD YOUNG WOMEN DANCERS: Brinley Tahbo and Tawnee Tahbo

CONTEST CATEGORIES

GOLDEN AGE MEN AND WOMEN 60+ DAY PAY ADULT MEN'S 18+ CATEGORIES ADULT WOMEN'S CATEGORIES

Categories Sponsored by the WEASEL FAMILY TEEN GIRLS (13-17) TRADITIONAL, FANCY, AND JINGLE

TEEN BOYS (13-17) TRADITIONAL, GRASS, FANCY, PRAIRIE CHICKEN

JR GIRLS (7-12) TRADITIONAL, FANCY, AND JINGLE

JR BOYS (7-12) TRADITIONAL, GRASS, FANCY, AND PRAIRIE CHICKEN TINY-TOTS PAID (MUST BE IN REGALIA) PAYOUT TO BE ANNOUNCED

SPECIALS

Lynell Shepherd Teen Girls Traditional Special Class of 2019 Honoring Indian Education Parent/Student Owl Dance Special

2019 NYP PRINCESS PAGEANT

CONTACT MELISSA HAMMETT 728-2400 X1028

SUPPER BREAK POTLUCK COMMUNITY FEED

VENDORS WELCOME CONTACT LEWIS YELLOWROBE 728-2400 X1049

SAVE THE DATE

THIS FLYER IS TENTATIVE UPDATED AS EVENT APPROACHES

NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THEFT, INJURIE, FINANCIAL NEEDS AND OR LOSS OF ANY KIND

Chewing the Grass with Stacy by Stacy Thacker



Ya'at'eeh (Hello),

As we move into a new year I hope everybody remembers to love one another and to check on each other. The Native American Missoula community has suffered many losses and it's hard to get through it alone. So if you are feeling lonely or know a friend who might need a hello or hug, make sure you reach out. Let's be kind to one another and remember

The last story of 2018 with my students was Red Parka Mary. In the story a little boy learns about love and how valuable love is. It was a good story to end the year on because students were able to tell me how they can show love to their peers, family, friends and school. Hearing the students talk about what they were thankful for and how they show love was heartwarming and I hope we are all able to remember what we are thankful for and what we do to show love in 2019.

The read aloud program will continue with Coyote Stories for the rest of the winter. We are comparing stories about how different tribes believe they got their fire and or sun. The students really enjoy hearing stories that share similar themes but come from different tribes.

My hope is that more and more students start to explore the Native American story sections in their libraries. Every time we meet for a read aloud I can see the growth in their questions and it's great to see how interested and invested they are in learning about their Native American peers, their surroundings and the Native American history of the state of Montana.

Contact information:

Stacy Thacker

Indian Education Department B2—Missoula County Public Schools—215 S. 6th St. West—Missoula, MT 59801

(406) 728-2400 ext. 1068 sthacker@mcps.k12.mt.us

2018-19 EVENT CALENDAR

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Spooky Scary Halloween RD	Friday October 26, 2018	5;30-8:30 PM	Meadow Hill Middle School
SUPAMAN Performance	Monday October 29, 2018	5:30-8:30	Meadow Hill Middle School
Winter Gathering	December 14, 2018	5:30-8:30	CS Porter Middle School
Sunday Funday	January 6,13, 20, 27 February 10, 24, 2019	1:00-3:00	CS Porter Middle School
Native Youth Powwow	Saturday, March 16, 2019	Grand Entry 12pm and 6pm	Sentinel High School
Graduating Senior Dinner	Friday, May 16, 2019	6:00-8:00pm	Double Tree Edgewater
End of the Year Gathering	Friday, May 31, 2019	3:00-6:00pm	Hawthorne Elementary

Data Guru— by Glenda Weasel

This month was a very emotional and trying month for me. The Missoula Native American Community has shown me this month that they can all come together and be supportive to one another in times of crisis. This makes me so proud to say that I live among such a caring community.

I would like to thank all of our supporters who helped make our MCPS Winter Gathering Mini Pow-wow such a success. Missoula Urban Indian Health Center, Montana Food Bank Network and the Missoula Food Bank. Also the MCPS PAC Committee, Missoula Native American Community for their continued support in all endeavors we do. The various University of Montana organizations who help us in any way they can.

Data has been updated continuously this month and all complete. Now starting to work on Tribal data from August 2018 to December 2018.

Glenda Weasel MCPS Native American Specialist/Data Indian Education Department B2 Missoula County Public Schools 215 S. 6th St. West Missoula, MT 59801 (406)728-2400 ext. 1063 gfweasel@mcps.k12.mt.us

MISSOULA COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS Forward Thinking, High Achieving	Indi	oula Co an Edu				8.4				
Event:	C.S. Porte	er Middle S	School W	'inter Gath	nering Mir	ni Pow-wo	ow			
	C.S. Porter Middle School Winter Gathering Mini Pow-wow 2510 W. Central									
	Missoula,	MT 59804								
	(406)542	-4060								
Principal:	Lisa Hen	drix								
Date:	Friday De	ecember 14	.2018							
Time:	5:00pm -	9:00pm								
Attendance:	Parent	Community	MCPS	Babies n'	KG -	Middle	High			
		Members	Staff	Toddlers	5 grade	School (6 -8)	School (9 -12)	Grand Totals		
Sign In Sheets	47	93	12	27	42	32	20	273		

TITLE VI PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2018-19 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 circling the number..

1.	Increase school readiness	7.	School dropout rate
2.	Integration of Indian specific content into curriculum	8.	Graduation rate
3.	Academic achievement	9.	Career readiness skills
4.	Knowledge of cultural identity and awareness	10.	College enrollment
5.	Enhance problem solving and cognitive skill development	11.	Substance abuse prevention
6.	School attendance rate	12.	Increase parent participation
Oth	er suggestions:		
Rar	ak the three most important needs:		
Plea	ase check the category(ies) that describe you (check all that apply):		
Nat	ive AmericanYes No		_Middle School Student
	_ Parent/Guardian		_Elementary School Student
	_ Community Member		_ Missoula County Public Schools District Employee
	_ High School Student		
Wh	at do you think is working well in the Missoula County Public Schools Ind	ian E	ducation 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



Hello,

My name is Matt Bell and I am a teacher at Big Sky High School and the Willard Alternative High School Program. My family and I are from the Fort Belknap (Nakoda and Aaniiih) reservation, so I love Montana (especially the High Line)! I went to college at the University of Montana where I received a degree in English teaching and Native American studies.

Mr. Bell's Native American Studies classes at Big Sky have kicked off by taking a look at what we know about the history of South and Central Americas before contact. We also have begun digging into the novel, "The Last Powwow". We would love to have community members come in and teach us some games this year!

Thank you all for the community support and we hope to see you at our next gathering!

Matt Bell

I really appreciate being able to share my knowledge and love of Native American studies at Big Sky. In addition, at Willard I teach various classes including a culinary class known as 'Native Eats' where we work with foods from the Americas. So with that, here is a recipe perfect for the holidays: Sweet Potato Casserole

Ingredients

For the sweet potatoes:

3 c (1 29-oz can) sweet potatoes, drained OR 3 sweet potatoes, peeled and sliced 1/4" 1 medium to large carrot, peeled and sliced 1/4" 1/2 c melted butter 1/3 c milk 3/4 c sugar 1 t vanilla 2 eggs, beaten Salt to taste

For the topping:

5 T melted butter 2/3 c sugar 2/3 c flour 1 c pecan pieces

Instructions: Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Mash the sweet potatoes and add the melted butter, milk, sugar, vanilla, beaten eggs, and a pinch of salt. Stir until incorporated. Pour into a shallow baking dish or a cast iron skillet. Combine the butter, brown sugar, flour, and pecan pieces in a small bowl, using your fingers to create moist crumbs. Sprinkle generously over the casserole. Bake for 25-35 minutes, until the edges pull away from the side of the pan and the top is golden brown. Let stand for the mixture to cool and solidify a little bit before serving.

Lewis's Place by Lewis Yellowrobe

The school year has been a wild success. I read the following books to Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grade students at Lewis & Clark, Paxson, and Jefferson Schools.

End of Summer – Henry Real Bird (Crow) – A Crow student remembering the good time at Crow Fair.

Mission To Space - John Herrington (Chickasaw) – A Chickasaw Astronaut travels to the International Space Station.

The Good Luck Cat - Joy Harjo (Muscogee) – A Cat with 9 Lives.

Bowwow Powwow - Brenda Child (Ojibwe) - A Native Girl's good times at a pow-wow.

Brave Wolf & Thunderbird - Joe Medicine Crow (Crow) - A Crow Man Helps the Thunderbird.

Santa Comes to the Reservation - Henry Real Bird (Crow) - Santa flies to the Crow Reservation.

I meet with students each week for a lunch club. At Lewis & Clark School, the students made teepees. It was a fun activity the students. Here are pictures of the teepee work.

I look forward to working with the students in the classroom and during lunch recess for the remainder of the school year.







Smoke Signals by Melissa Hammett



Native American Studies Business concepts of MT Tribes Class:

Finished up Essential Understandings of MT Tribes.

Started on Fur Trade in Montana:

- Video on Hellgate pass Blackfoot Trade Fire arms
- Indigenous people in Montana
- Indigenous Women in the Fur Trade
- American traders and trappers
- Fur Trade Companies

Fur Trade In MT power point:

- History of Fur Trade in Montana
- Slaughter of the buffalo
- The importance of Native Women in Fur Trade
- American Traders and Trappers
- Mountain Men

Native American Specialist:

Hellgate & Sentinel: Checking in on students with their grades and attendance. Attended individual meeting with parents, student, and counselor. Attended a couple classrooms with to check on progress of a couple of students at Sentinel and Hellgate.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Hellgate	10:42-11:31	10:42-11:31	10:16-11:00	10:12-10:45	10:42-11:31
NAS-SHS 194			11:15-1:30		
Sentinel	2:10-3:00	2:10-3:00	1:30-3:00	NA	2:10-3:00

Cody Munson by Cody Munson

It has been a tough month to say the least for many reasons for many families in our community.

That being said, I feel that our Winter Gathering Social Powwow and Pot-luck feed was a success and had a Great turn out for attendance and vendors. We were extremely Lucky to have the Missoula Urban Indian Health Center as a Collaborating partner with all of their hard work and donations they contributed to the cause. As we were also very appreciative of the donations from the Montana Food Bank Network and the Missoula Food Bank. Previous to getting into the planning process of the event, as a first year Native American Specialist, I had no idea how many different things were involved not only in the planning but also the set up of a social powwow. It was a very interesting and educational process that I would not have been able to do it without the non-stop help and guidance of my Awesome and experienced colleagues; Ray, Glenda, Melissa, Stacy and Lewis who all stepped up and helped me out in a Big way.

The new Jeanette Rankin (River Hawk's) school is now completely open and all of my Read-Aloud programs are going fairly smoothly from Kindergarten through the Second Grade, which is very nice to have them in full swing. The Lunch Club Groups are also gaining some more interest from our native students in the school which is also Awesome.

If there's anything else you'd like me to add or change let me know. Sorry for just now getting this to you, I though I had hit send earlier.

Cody Munson Native American Specialist Missoula County Public Schools 215 South 6th St. West Missoula, MT 59801 406-728-2400 x1064 cmunson@mcps.k12.mt.us



Missoula County Public Schools Indian Education Department



Missoula County Public School Data for August 2018 through December 2018

Student Count											
	Native A	All MCPS									
	Students										
Elementary Schoo	Dec-18		Nov-18		Oct-18		Sep-18		Aug-18		
Grade Early KG	7	32	7	33	7	34	6	0	2	57	
Grade KG	31	609	33	607	31	604	21	604	15	598	
Grade 01	51	645	51	641	52	639	48	647	45	641	
Grade 02	36	582	39	579	38	575	34	580	33	574	
Grade 03	52	614	50	612	51	611	49	617	48	613	
Grade 04	48	636	50	637	48	635	44	637	45	632	
Grade 05	62	634	63	633	62	628	53	626	51	622	
	287	3752	293	3742	289	3726	255	3711	239	3737	
	287		293		289		255		239		
	3752		3742		3726		3711		3737		
Percentage	7.64%	8%	7.83%	8%	7.75%	8%	6.87%	7%	6.39%	<mark>6%</mark>	

Missoula C	county 1	Public	Schoo	l Data	for Au	igust 2	2018 t	hroug	h Dece	mber	2018
Student Count											
	Native A	All MCPS	Native A	All MCPS	Native A	All MCPS	Native A	All MCPS	Native A	All MCPS	
	Students	Students	Students	Students	Students	Students	Students	Students	Students	Students	
Middle Schools	Dec-18		Nov-18		Oct-18		Sep-18		Aug-18		
Grade 06	52	602	52	596	54	598	50	605	48	599	
Grade 07	54	601	56	610	56	611	57	611	55	607	
Grade 08	47	510	48	510	51	513	48	512	45	510	
	153	1713	156	1716	161	1722	155	1728	148	1716	
	153		156		161		155		148		
	1713		1716		1722		1728		1716		
Percentage	8.93%	9 %	9.09%	9%	9.34%	9%	8.96%	9%	8.62%	9%	



Missoula County Public Schools Indian Education Department



Missoula County Public School Data for August 2018 through December 2018

Student Count											
	Native A	All MCPS									
	Students										
High Schools	Dec-18		Nov-18		Oct-18		Sep-18		Aug-18		
Grade 09	50	987	50	992	50	993	50	656	50	989	
Grade 10	46	943	46	945	45	938	44	936	41	953	
Grade 11	56	900	60	906	61	911	59	926	61	962	
Grade 12	50	876	51	878	50	892	51	903	51	942	
	202	3706	207	3721	206	3734	204	3421	203	3846	
	202		207		206		204		203		
	3706		3721		3734		3421		3846		
Percentage	5.45%	5%	5.56%	6%	5.51%	6%	5.96%	6%	5.27%	5%	