







Tsa nii ta pii? - by Raymond Kingfisher

Oki Nikso'kowaaksi (hello my relatives),

NISSOULA CO

Well... well, Motoyi, the "Spring Season," is upon us, even though it does not feel like it as ikstoyisopo, cold wind, is still here. The 2019 MCPS Native Youth Powwow is coming up fast. The team is preparing for a great turnout as we have advertised all over the schools and around the state. It will be a good day for a celebration. The department would like to thank the sponsors of this year's powwow, MUIHC, Missoula Human Resource Council and Missoula County Public Schools. We hope see you, and your family out there.

January through March has been a very busy time for me at the schools. I have been meeting with students and families the past few months. My goal for the rest of the year is to get all my students passing grades, I know it will be tough but it is a good attainable goal. So, you parents can help me out by checking "Q," keeping in contact with your student's teachers and talking about their academic progress. If the teacher knows you are checking on your student it will create an awareness that you the parent want your student to succeed. Any help I can get would be great!

From late September to March some community members/parents and I have been hosting 6th-8th grade "Open Gym." Here the students got to participate in a physical activity, get to know one another and hear me talk about grades and attendance. There was some great learning as we made it through the time on the court. The students enjoyed their time there. I just want to thank those all involved in helping the students out.

Please stay up to date on our events. We have a few left if you did not get the chance to attend one of the earlier planned. Have a good spring start, remember to help me out with my goal.

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



January 1, 2019

Inside	thie	iceno.
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Contents Tsa nii ta pii—Ray Kingfisher	1
MCPS Native Youth Powwow Flyer	2
Staff Contact Information 2018-19 Parent Advisory Committee	3
Tamarack Grief Center Here comes the Sun Flyer	4
Chewing the grass— Stacy Thacker Event Calendar	5
Data Guru–Glenda Weasel	6
PAC Needs Assessment form	7
Teacher's Corner—Matt Bell	8
Lewis's Place—Lewis Yellowrobe	9
Smoke Signals–Melissa Hammett	10
Crystal White Shield Welcome	11
Title VI Parent Advisory Committee	12
Data for 2018	13



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 (Grass/Chicken combined) ADULT WOMEN'S 18+ 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) 1ST 5 DRUMS PAID

Contact: GLENDA WEASEL 728-2400 X1063 or gfweasel@mcps.k12.mt.us





SPECIALS

Lynell Shepherd 16+ Womens Traditional Special Big Sky High School Class of 2019 Honoring

Missoula Native Youth Council Owl Dance Special and \$100 Clown Dance Special (during supper break)

Wakinyan BearCub Memorial giveaway for expecting and new born families, tiny-tot gifting

Tiny Tot Boys (5 & under) Traditional Special in Honor of Takeshi Last Capture.

2019 NYP PRINCESS PAGEANT

CONTACT MELISSA HAMMETT 728-2400 X1028 SUPPER BREAK POTLUCK COMMUNITY FEED

VENDORS WELCOME

CONTACT LEWIS YELLOWROBE 728-2400 X1049



HUMAN RESOURCE COUNCIL



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

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	
Crystal WhiteShield	Native American Specialist	Ext. 1064		Big Sky High School, Hawthorne, Jeanette Rankin,
Lewis YellowRobe	Native American Specialist	Ext. 1049	lyellowrobe@mcps.k12.mt.us	Lewis & Clark, Paxson, Jefferson, Seeley Swan, Lowell
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	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								



TAMARACK GRIEF RESOURCE CENTER

March Day Camp Here Comes THE SUN!

TGRC Missoula, 405 S. 1st St. W. Wednesday 3/27 & Thursday 3/28 9:00am-3:00 pm Drop off 8:45-9:00, pick up 3:00-3:15 May attend one or both days.

For children grades 1-5 grieving the death of a family member or loved one.

Memories • Meaningful Connections • Snow Games Fun • Time to Honor & Remember • Friends

For more information or to register, call 406-541-8472.

PLEASE SHARE WITH OTHERS! NO CHILD SHOULD GRIEVE ALONE!

Chewing the Grass with Stacy by Stacy Thacker



Ya'at'eeh (Hello),

I hope everybody is well and enjoying all this snow that doesn't seem to want to leave.

This will be my last month as a Native American Specialist with the MCPS Indian Education Department. I've enjoyed my time with the school district immensely and I'm sad to be leaving so soon. I've worked at different elementary schools in the district in my few years here and they have been welcoming and open to our program. I appreciate that.

Indian Education For All is an important initiative and we are lucky to have an administration that supports it and allows us to share our experience with you all.

In the short time that I've worked here I've been able to build relationships with students that I will cherish and miss. The students go through so much change in their life and it was always nice to know that I could be a constant for them. I've worked with great staff and principals across the district and I'll miss our visits.

I've accepted a position with the GEAR UP program at Eastern Arizona College. GEAR UP is an initiative to get students motivated about their futures and helps them see college as a possibility. I'll be working with 8th grade students on the Navajo reservation. It's nice to be going home to the sunshine, green chili and legitimate Mexican food, but I will miss Montana and the friends I've made here.

Please continue to support the Indian Education Department. It's a great department made up of individuals who happily give a lot of their own time to make sure our students, teachers and community are getting the best Indian Education For All experience.

Almost every month there is a community event that is open to both Native and non-Native. Please take advantage of these small opportunities to learn more about the Native Americans and tribes represented in Missoula. There are over 50 tribes represented in our school district and that is something to celebrate.

Thank you all for welcoming a random Navajo into your schools and lives. If you see my students please say, "Oki," to them. It means hello in Blackfeet and I promise you that they will be excited to say it back to you with pride.

Ahehee' (Thank you).

Sincerely, Stacy Thacker

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

Good Day:

These past three months have been really busy for me. The Title VI Grant Part I is done and submitted. YAAHH. I have been working hard with the Willard students. Building new relationships with the students is always a plus. The start of this New Year has me doing home visits and welcoming new families that have entered our MCPS district.

Getting prepared for the MCPS Native Youth Powwow. I would like to welcome all Missoula community to come and participate in this wonderful event.

Always working hard on getting the monthly data out. Our highest count was in the month of October.

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MCPS Dat	a fo	г Ос	tobe	er 20)18		Total # of
Student Count	KG	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Students
Elementary Sch	00/5						
Chief Charlo	3	3	3	8	3	8	28
Franklin	3	4	2	7	4	7	27
Hawthorne	1	6	13	5	8	11	-1-1
Jeannette Rankin	1	8	-4	3	6	3	25
Lewis & Clark	4	5	4	5	2	5	25
Lowell	3	7	6	6	9	13	44
Paxson	8	8	3	9	7	6	41
Rattlesnake	2	4	1	1	2	2	12
Russell	6	7	2	7	7	7	36
	31	52	38	51	48	62	282
Middle Schools	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8				
C.S. Porter	21	32	18				71
Meadow Hill	24	16	18				58
Washington	9	8	15				32
	54	56	51				161
High Schools	Gr. 9	Gr. 10	Gr. 11	Gr. 12			
Big Sky	16	14	19	22			71
Hellgate	17	14	16	16			63
Sentinel	16	16	17	8			57
Seeley-Swan	0	0	0	0			0
Willord Alternative	1	1	9	4			15
	50	45	61	50			206
Jefferson PK							7
Native Am	erica	an St	udei	nt Co	unt		656



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 American Yes 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

The Teacher's Corner by Matt Bell



Aloha from snowy Montana!

Mr. Bell's Native American Studies Class is underway for the 2nd semester. We have started out this story telling season with a variety of stories from Blackfeet and Assiniboine texts. We be including stories from more tribes as the year continues but if any community member would like to share others or even come in to class to share, we would sure appreciate it!

We will also be taking a quick peek at the OPI Guide to Understanding and Enjoying Powwows. Again, community members are very welcome to come in and share!

Pinamaya and have a good day everybody! Matt Bell



WHERE	WHEN					
WHERE	When	Time				
Missoula Food Bank & Community Center	Monday to Friday March 25-29	Breakfast: 9:30 - 11 am (W & Fonly) Lunch: 11 am - 1:30 pm (M-F) Supper: 5-7pm (Mon, Tues, & Thonly)				
Council Groves Apts Kids Eat Free Bus	Monday to Friday March 25-29	Lunch: 11:30 am - 12:00 pm				
Travois Village Trailer Park Kids Eat Free Bus	Monday to Friday March 25-29	Lunch: 12:15 - 12:45 pm				



Lewis's Place by Lewis Yellowrobe

Class Readings: Tricksters - Raven (Tlingit) and Pig (Hawaiian)

In February 2019, I read How Raven Stole the Sun by Marie Williams (Inupiak) in Paxson and Lewis and Clark Schools. I explained Inupiak use the Long House to contrast that not all Natives live in teepees. I also showed their style of dress with the straw hats, tapestry clothing, and boots are different from Plains buckskin, feathers, and moccasins.

At Jefferson Preschool, I read Pig Boy, the Hawaiian trickster. After the reading, the students decorated a grass hat.

Sunday Funday

We hosted Sunday Funday events in January and February. Students and parents played basketball and dodgeball, sewed, drummed, and took Salish language lessons. It was a great success. I took over the read aloud program at Lowell School for the remainder the school year.

Blackfeet and Crow Astonomy: Paxson School

Finally, six students, two parent volunteers, and I went to the Planetarium to learn about Blackfeet Astronomy. Before our visit, the students learned about the Crow call the Big Dipper the Seven Bulls who are protecting a boy (the North Star). They also learned about Scarface, the Blackfeet morning star, who used the Wolf Trail (Milky Way) to travel back to earth.







Smoke Signals by Melissa Hammett



Native American Studies Business Concepts of MT Tribes class Topics: Sentinel HS & Hellgate HS Start of a new semester with new group of students Stereo types, misconceptions, & assumptions of Native Americans Montana reservations & Tribes; Names Tribes call them selves Boarding Schools

The Big Sky Documentary Film Festival had a lot of Native American focused documentaries this year and I was lucky enough to screen a few of the films and have the directors and producers there to discuss the films with my students in my Hellgate and Sentinel classes. On Tuesday 2/19/2019 we screened Blood Memory with producer Elizabeth Day, Megan Whitney, & Director Drew Nicholas. Blood Memory focuses on Boarding Schools and adoptions. On Wednesday 2/20/2019 at Hellgate we screened two films. The Blackfeet Flood with director Torsten Kjellstrand. This film looked at the 1964 flood that killed 31 people when raging waters hit the Blackfeet Reservation. We also screened Harlem Rap at both Hellgate and Sentinel and were able to hear from student rapper Hunter about the video process and what his song was about. Browning Rising Voices also screened their film at Sentinel as well. This included several students from BHS & their advisors. Browning Rising Voices is about Browning High School's Poetry Club. Along for the ride was Native American director Ben-Alex Dupris. He is the director of Sweetheart Dancers. Although we didn't get the chance to screen his film, I was happy to have him in my classes supporting other directors.

The MCPS Indian Ed. Department presented Hellgate High School with a set of tribal flags during Diversity week assembly on February 19, 2019. Our department partnered with Missoula Urban Indian Health Center to bring in two dancers for the assembly as well.

	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

Crystal WhiteShield

Peve'eseeva! Kee Own Day Daw! ("It is a good day" in Cheyenne and Kiowa) Pi-Kee-Mah Ah Tahn. ("Sunray Woman is my name." – Kiowa)

I'm Crystal White Shield, your newest Native American Community Specialist in the MCPS Indian Education Department. I am also serving as the Vice Chair for the Title XI Parent Advisory Committee - MCPS Indian Ed Dept up until the end of this school year. I am an enrolled member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes of Oklahoma, but also represent the Kiowa Tribe, originally from Apache Y, Oklahoma. I am a mother to six children and 2 stepsons, with four that are attending school at Sentinel High School, Meadow Hill Middle School, and Jefferson Preschool. I'm also a grandmother to two beautiful granddaughters. I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Management Information Systems from the University of Montana (UM), and currently a Master of Business Administration candidate, also with UM.

As a Native American Community Specialist, I have been assigned to assist the Hawthorne Elementary, Jeanette Rankin Elementary, and Big Sky High School buildings. I am excited to be of service to the Native students, families, and schools as Support Staff for those locations. I have been meeting with School Counselors, Vice Principals, and Principals at each school location this week, just to get acclimated into each school's diverse, educational environment. I will be contacting some students and their families before the upcoming Spring Break that are "people of interest" in these meetings. My goal is to have "Read Aloud" and Lunch Gatherings scheduled with all 3 schools by the time school is back in session from the upcoming Spring Break.

In closing, I would also encourage parents and families to reach out to me regarding cultural/regalia questions. I am currently the lead instructor for the "One Stitch at a Time" sewing class series for the Missoula Urban Indian Health Center and volunteer my time to assist families with creating powwow regalia for their children.

I look forward to working with your students!

Nea'ese! AHO! ("Thank you" in Cheyenne and Kiowa)

Crystal White Shield Native American Community Specialist (406)728-2400 x 1064 cwhiteshield@mcps.k12.mt.us



Title VI Parent Advisory Committee—Rebecca BearCub

Haun Mitakuyepi! We are well over the half way mark for the school year, with a little over 90 days left in the 2018-2019 school year.! The Parent Advisory Committee would like to thank everyone who has supported our students & donated time, & efforts for events, & fundraising, it is very much appreciated. On April 6th PAC with be having another Indian Taco Sale at Council Grove apartments, in the community room. All proceeds go to the funding for the Native Senior Dinner for the graduating class of 2019. We will have some raffles as well, and a table of baked goods at the MCPS Native Youth Pow Pow on March 16th. All the proceeds from the raffles & bake sale go to the Senior Dinner as well. Please come out & support some amazing students. Also in April, PAC will be taking nominations for four new members for the committee, & also a teacher rep. The appointed committee will start their term in the 2019-2020 school year. PAC is a commitment, & also a rewarding experience to be a part of our amazing students educational journey! Please continue to look on the MCPS Indian Ed Facebook page for continued information on nominations, events, & positive information!

Rebecca BearCub

Missoula County Public School Data for August 2018 through December 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	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	
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%	<mark>6</mark> %	5.96%	6%	5.27%	5%	



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%	6%	