



Missoula County Public Schools Indian Education Department



Camp Cryer by Cathie Cichosz



Is it already the end of the school year? It went by fast, as it always does. I hope you have some excitement planned for the summer or that you get that well-deserved rest. I am grateful to have served Missoula County Public School's students, staff, and families for another year.

I served Jefferson Preschool, Hawthorne Elementary, and Cold Springs Elementary, offering our Read Aloud Program for those schools.

At Jefferson, I have been reading books by Lorraine Adams, such as *New Slippers (Moccasins)*, *The Powwow*, *The Dreamcatcher*, *The Eagle*, and *My Kokum Called Today*. Ms. Adams writes stories for preschool and kindergarten kids. When we read the story, we often stop and talk about the book. I also have Native American coloring pages for the kids so they can color and listen to a story.

At Hawthorne Elementary and Cold Springs Elementary Native American Lunch Clubs, we read books, such as *The Mud Pony* by Caron Lee Cohen, *Beardream* by Will Hobbs and *Grandmother's Dreamcatcher* by Stacey Schuett. We also made dreamcatchers and played the Native game called doubleball.

The books I have read for our Read Aloud Program are: *Where Did You Get Your Moccasins* by Harriet Peck Taylor, *Eagle Feather-An Honor* by Ferguson Plan, *Jingle Dancer* by Iris Loewen, *Coyote and the Sky* by Emmett "Schkeme" Garcia, *Raccoon's Last Race* by Joseph and James Bruchac, *Red Parka Mary* by Peter Eyvinson, *Turtle's Race with Beaver* by Joseph Bruchac, *How Chipmunk Got His Stripes* by Joseph and James Bruchac, *Coyote Steals the Blanket* by Janet Stevens, *Through the Eyes of the Eagle* and *Knees Lifted High* by Georgia Perez, *The Buffalo and the Boat* by Kayo Bad Heart Bull, and *Beardream* by Will Hobbs. I also showed and explained videos of the different types of Native American dances and taught the kids how to round dance, just in time to attend our Halloween Round Dance and our Native Youth Powwow on April 1.

June 7, 2017



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Be sure to check out our [webpage](#) and join our [Facebook](#) page. Both are great resources for information about our department, upcoming events, community activities and other news.

Thank you for your continued support of our department. We appreciate all you have done for us this year.



Forward Thinking, High Achieving.

MISSOULA COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS INDIAN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Administration Building, B2
215 South 6th St. West Missoula, MT 59801

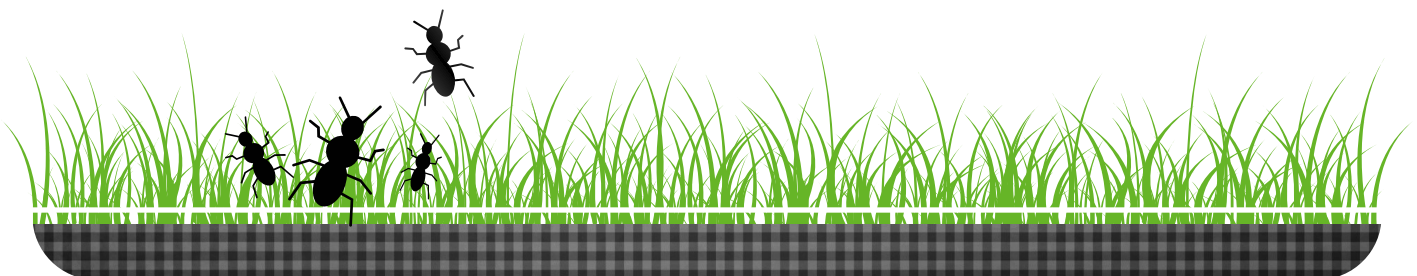
Website: www.mcpsmt.org/IEFA

Facebook: www.facebook.com/MCPS.Indian.Education.Department

[Staff contact information](#) for 2017-18 academic year



Artwork by Cecil B. Crawford



SUMMER MEALS FOR KIDS



Beginning Monday, June 12, summer meals are available at four Missoula locations to children ages 18 and younger at no cost.

No sign up required; students just need to stop by to be served.

The schedule for Summer Food Service is breakfast from 8:30-10 AM and lunch from 11 AM-1 PM Monday-Friday at the following locations:

Chief Charlo (5600 Longview)
Jefferson (1700 South Avenue W.)
Russell (3216 Russell)
Head Start (1001 Warden Avenue)

Summer meals will be served through Friday, August 18. For more information, please call Stacey Rossmiller at 728-2400, ext. 3023.



2017-18 SCHOOL CALENDARS

[Click here](#) for school calendars
(Scroll down for 2017-18)

Check out our district library [brochure](#) and their [webpage](#)!



The PAC!!! by Rebecca BearCub



Hello everyone, I'm Rebecca BearCub, a member of the **Parent Advisory Committee** for the Indian Education Department and Title VI grant here at MCPS. I hope this newsletter finds everyone in good health with a positive end of the school year for your children and families. I have two boys in school, one at Hawthorne and one at Porter. It's been a year full of ups, downs, learning and triumphs.

This year PAC and the Indian Education Department have had several successful events in conjunction with the Missoula Urban Indian Health Center, families, and individuals throughout the community. These events have included our annual Halloween & Christmas round dances, our Pow Wow, Youth Conference, and our annual Honor Banquet for graduating Indigenous students throughout the MCPS district.

It's been a busy year and this coming year will be just as busy and successful, I am sure. We will have openings coming up for our Parent Advisory Committee when the 2017-2018 school year begins. Watch for the announcement and other important announcements from our MCPS Indian Education and PAC community on the [MCPS Indian Education Department Facebook page](#).

I hope everyone has an eventful summer with safe travels. We look forward to seeing returning students and families this coming fall!

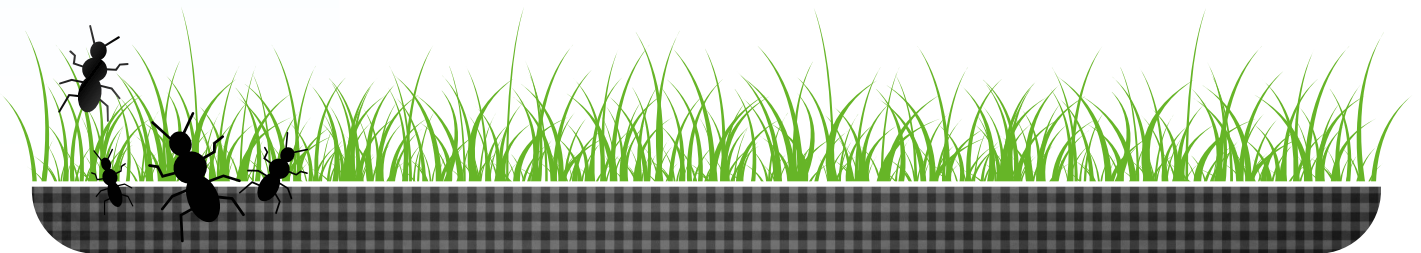
REMINDER! PASS THE WORD AROUND!

Kindergarten Registration for Fall 2017

Kindergarten registration took place from March 6 to April 14. If you have **NOT** signed your child up for kindergarten, please do so as soon as possible.

Children must be age 5 on or before September 10, 2016. You are encouraged to visit your neighborhood school to enroll **BEFORE** the end of the school year. Paperwork you need: a current immunization record, copy of the child's birth certificate and two forms of address verification such as a phone bill, utility bill, lease agreement, etc. at the time of registration.

For more information on Kindergarten registration, call your school **BEFORE** the end of the school year or [click here](#) to register online.

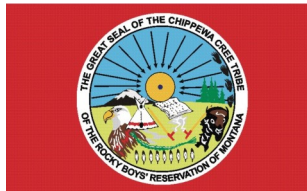
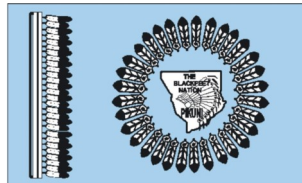
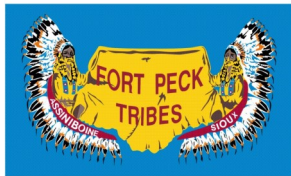


2017-18 TENTATIVE EVENT CALENDAR

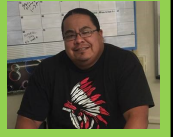
EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
*Native American Heritage Week	September 18-22, 2017	Various times during week	Various locations throughout district	Melissa Hammett
*Professional Learning Opportunity (in collaboration with Salish Kootenai Tribe)	Thursday & Friday October 19-20, 2017	To be announced	To be announced	All staff
*Round Dance (in conjunction with Professional Learning Opportunity)	Thursday, October 19 2017	2:00-7:00 PM	CS Porter Middle School (gym)	Jake Arrowtop
*Winter Gathering	Friday, December 15, 2017	6:00-8:00 PM	CS Porter Middle School (both gyms)	Ray Kingfisher
*Thursday Fun Night	Thursdays, January 4- February 8, 2018 (Feb. 15 as alternate date)	4:00-6:00 PM or 5:00-7:00 PM	CS Porter Middle School (both gyms & art room)	All staff
*Native Youth Powwow	Saturday, March 17, 2018	Grand Entry 12:00 and 6:00 PM	Sentinel High School (all school areas)	Glenda Weasel
*Graduating Senior Dinner	Thursday, May 17, 2018	6:00-8:00 PM	Missoula College	Cathie Cichosz
*End of the Year BBQ	Friday, June 1, 2018	3:00-6:00 PM	McCormick Park	Stacy Thacker
*Subject to change				

Montana Tribal Flag Ceremonies

Our department has held tribal flag ceremonies in the following schools this year: Sentinel High School, Lowell Elementary, and Cold Springs Elementary. We have eight (8) Montana tribal flags for each school in the MCPS district. The presentation of tribal flags will be completed next year.



TSA NII TA PII WA (What's Happening?) by Ray Kingfisher



Oki Niikssokowaaksi (hello, my relatives),

We have been a busy bunch of people over here at the Indian Education Department. The school year flew by once the holiday season ended. Now that springtime is here, the students are becoming restless and are ready for summertime.

We set out to do so much this year to help our young people. Visiting these young folks in the schools and being there to help them with their experience is fulfilling. The events our department planned had great community attendance. When school gets out for the summer, I will continue to reach out to the students and families as I see you out in the community.

Please let me know of ideas you may have. One of the ideas that is in the works is the start-up of a Missoula Native Youth Council. A student-run organization will help empower tribal youth to become leaders. If any of the students/parents would like to be involved in this endeavor, please let me know.

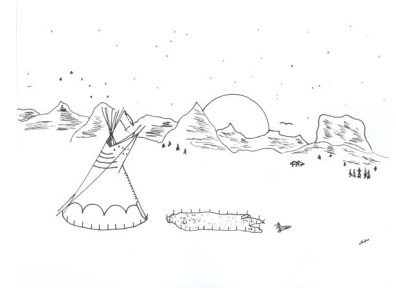
In the fall, we will be starting a "Cultural Sensitivity" course that will allow us to help some teachers relate to tribal student needs. If your student has run into any problems in the schools, please let us know. This will ensure that the problems or concerns are taken care of in a proper manner. Let us hear of any experience that has happened in the schools.

There will be Kiwanis basketball teams next fall for girls and boys in grades 6 through 8. This will be a good chance to get your students out there playing basketball and working on skills. A young man from CS Porter received a Griz Basketball Camp Scholarship for his participation in the basketball leagues. Summertime is a good time to practice for the upcoming season. There are 3-on-3 basketball tourneys taking place all summer long. Gather a team together. Get out there and play. I will be out on the courts this summer, usually at Bonner and Playfair parks, in the evenings. I am happy to help with any skills that you would like to work on.

MCPS Indian Education has a "Needs Assessment" survey that is offered to the Native American Community. This is for the parents/guardians of our young people, and for the community. Our department asks that you fill out the survey, which is included in this newsletter. We would like to see what you think is an important part of our kids' success. We have many good ideas out there from our Native American community. Let's hear them.

As we come to the end of another good year here in MCPS, I ask that you all take care and have a good summer. We give thanks for many things, especially our young people. I will see some of you this summer at the powwows, grocery store, gas station, Missoula Urban Indian Health Center functions, and "cruising." Be sure to wave at me and say, "OKI," (hello). It is always good to see you people out and about. Have an ik'sukapi (really good) summer!

Ray Kingfisher



"We set out to do so much this year to help our young people. Visiting these young folks in the schools and being there to help them with their experience is fulfilling."—Ray Kingfisher

Chewing the Grass with Stacy *by Stacy Thacker*



Ya'at'eeh!

With summer break upon us, students are spending the next few weeks finishing up projects and are already talking about the next school year! These kids sure do like to learn!

This spring some of my students at Franklin Elementary School were able to complete weaving a rug. We started out with learning about Navajo rugs, what their purpose was and what their designs and colors mean. Then we moved on to coloring our own Navajo rugs before we eventually started making the real thing.

We didn't have enough time to learn how to put designs in our rugs but the students enjoyed learning how to weave and being able to pick out their own color yarn. Many students were making rugs for their grandparents and others were making rugs for their toys.

The looms were made out of cardboard and it took the students about two to three months to complete. I had many orders for bright yarn colors and it was exciting to see their rugs come to life.

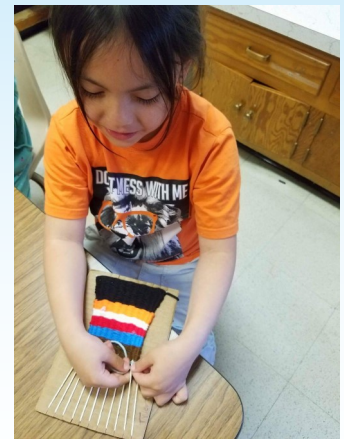
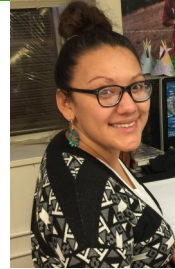
When I wasn't weaving with my lunch groups I was reading to grades K through 2nd. One group of second grade students at Franklin liked my books so much they started their own collection of Native American books in their classroom and even made a little book to thank me for coming in to read.

The Read Aloud Program wasn't only loved at Franklin but also by my other schools including Rattlesnake Elementary School and Russell Elementary School. Before the KyiYo Powwow, I read students books about powwows and brought in a jingle dress, a hand drum and a choker necklace for them to see. By the end of the year the students were able to compare and contrast different stories we read and were even able to find similarities in non-Native books they're reading.

Overall it was a good year and I look forward to meeting new students next year and watching the ones I already know grow.

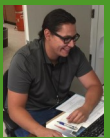
Ahe'hee

Stacy Thacker



"Overall it was a good year and I look forward to meeting new students next year and watching the ones I already know grow." —StacyThacker

Jake's Place *by Jake Arrowtop*



Mount Jumbo Tribal Flag Assembly

Lowell 4th and 5th graders kicked off the powwow season with an assembly honoring the eight Montana Tribal flags. The Lowell lunch club showed great dedication in learning about each tribal flag, how to properly pronounce each tribe's name in their native language, as well as consistently practicing public speaking in the weeks leading up to the assembly.

The students studied the flag imagery and how it related to each tribe's culture. They introduced each tribe in their native language and relayed important aspects that highlighted each tribe's diverse heritage.

After the presentation, local drummers shared a flag song and an honor song. The 2nd and 4th grade students also shared their IEFA art projects. To close the assembly, everyone participated in a round dance led by the Lowell lunch club.

The Teacher's Corner *by Matt Bell*



Recipe: Salmon, Trout and other fish

Because it's fishing season, I thought I'd give you some thoughts on how to throw something together to make your catch of the day more interesting. I know a lot of kids like to fish, but don't like to eat fish as much. The omega 3 acids in fish like salmon go a long way in promoting healthy brain activity and development, as opposed to the empty calories of potatoes (fries) and pizzas.

One of the ways to take some of the fishy flavor out is to create a marinade and one of the best basic things to have around for a good marinade is honey. Next, soy sauce is a good addition to round out the flavor profile. Along with salt and pepper, this is basically all you need. There are many ways to expand on this basic combination but that should be all you need to create a good marinade for your fish.

2-4 Tablespoons Honey

2 Tablespoons Soy Sauce

Pinch Salt/Pepper

For best results, marinade for up to a day before cooking. It's also easy to make before you go camping and take with you.

Possible additions may include Lime, Cilantro, Ginger, Grilled Wild Onions, and Wild Rice.

Fry in butter and oil or grill for a crispier outside, but watch how much fat your are adding to your diet.

Baking at 350 degrees for about 20 minutes with help you skip the extra oils/fats.

It's also a good time to remind the young ones about the [difference between Bull and Brook Trout and why it's important](#). Also, the history of the fish and marine life populations of the Flathead Lake will help our young ones appreciate our food sources.

Thank you and enjoy the berry-picking months!

GLENDA, THE GOOD DATA GURU *by Glenda Weasel*



"Tansi", "Anin" (Hello):

My name is Glenda Weasel. I am the Title VI Native American Specialist/Data Support Staff. The school I worked with this year is Willard Alternative High School. Many thanks to the new principal, Kevin Ritchlin, and staff for welcoming me in the school. In addition, I enjoyed meeting all the new families that attended our monthly events and all the community support we received.

This year (September 2016) was the highest Native American student count for the school district.

On another note, please be informed that this year we have a new Title VI ED 506 Indian Student Eligibility Certification form. Don't forget to fill out the new forms at your school.

Missoula County Public School Data for September 2016														Total # of	Total # of	
Student Count	KG	506 #'s	Grade 1	506 #'s	Grade 2	506 #'s	Grade 3	506 #'s	Grade 4	506 #'s	Grade 5	506 #'s		Students	506 #'s	
Elementary Schools																
Chief Charlo	3	1	6	5	5	4	9	5	10	8	7	5		40	28	
Cold Springs	3	1	3	1	7	3	4	2	8	4	5	4		30	15	
Franklin	0	0	5	1	3	2	7	3	2	1	11	8		28	15	
Hawthorne	14	7	6	4	7	3	9	2	6	4	4	3		46	23	
Lewis & Clark	1	1	4	4	4	4	4	4	7	7	4	2		24	22	
Lowell	6	3	9	5	7	3	7	3	3	2	13	9		45	25	
Paxson	2	1	5	2	7	6	8	2	7	6	2	1		31	18	
Rattlesnake	5	4	1	0	2	2	2	2	3	1	2	2		15	11	
Russell	5	4	11	7	7	4	8	6	10	10	8	6		49	37	
	39	22	50	29	49	31	58	29	56	43	56	40		308	194	
Middle Schools																
C.S. Porter	14	9	18	12	11	9								43	30	
Meadow Hill	20	13	11	8	8	5								39	26	
Washington	14	11	12	8	9	7								35	26	
	48	33	41	28	28	21								117	82	
High Schools																
Big Sky	24	19	25	16	28	15	21	16						98	66	
Hellgate	27	17	26	17	22	10	14	12						89	56	
Sentinel	18	15	14	9	13	8	12	6						57	38	
Seeley-Swan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						0	0	
Willard Alternative	2	1	2	1	5	4	12	7						21	13	
	71	52	67	43	68	37	59	41						265	173	
Jefferson PK														9	5	
Native American Student Count														Grand Total	699	454

[Click here for the 506 form](#)

Many thanks for everyone's support this year and for making our monthly events a successful one. See you all next year.

Title VI Parent Advisory Committee 2017-18 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 |

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

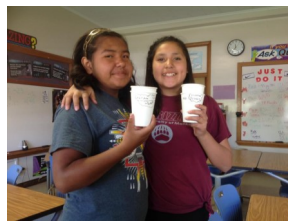
Missoula, MT 59801

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





Melissa Hammett's class at Hellgate High School tried Native Americana traditional food: fry bread, June Berry soup, elk dry meat, & real peppermint tea. The students tried June berry soup for the first time and really liked it.



Ray Kingfisher, at Washington Middle School, taught the students about Native American Agriculture and the "3 Sisters," Beans, Squash, and Maize (corn). I also brought in some seeds and dirt so that these young ladies could plant something of their own.



Austin Ross gave a presentation on fur trading and trapping to Melissa Hammett's class at Hellgate High School (in support of the unit on the business of fur and trapping). Austin showed his different traps and furs, such as a beaver, muskrat, fox, coyote, badger, & skunk.



CS. Porter annual Native American student higher education field trip. This was a great trip to see the Montana College's new campus and a look at the departments there. —Ray Kingfisher



Coloring pages from Jefferson Preschool and Hawthorne Elementary — artists in training!— Cathie Cichosz

[Click here](#) for Hawthorne Elementary student reporters video news report about the Kyiyo Powwow.—Cathie Cichosz

CS Porter families!!! And students, the Native American Family welcome back is this evening. 5:30-7pm. The Indian education team and Porter staff will be introduced. The MUIHC will also be on hand. So come on out and check it out. October 6, 2016



Ray Kingfisher teaching our kids to [play doubleball](#).



Jr. Miss KyiYo 2017-2018, Rhiannon Eagle Speaker



Took a couple students over to the University of Montana and celebrated a good day!



Finished scraping a hide!



Congratulations to Dale LaPlant from CS Porter). He received the William "Bill" Fischer University of Montana Grizzly basketball scholarship. Thank you Kiwanis Missoula for giving this young man the opportunity to gain knowledge and experience about the game of basketball. Dale and his teammates finished with a 8-1 record. They all played hard and are deserving of recognition. Keep working, get faster and stronger! Excel in the classroom and on the court.



2016-17 Monthly Event Pictures

Native American Heritage Week

September 19-23, 2016



In collaboration with Missoula Public Library NEA "Big Read"
Presents:
"The Big 1 Person Hand Drum Singing Contest"
And
Native American Heritage Week
Missoula Community Social Round Dance



Dustin Monroe, President of our Title VI Parent Advisory Committee, speaks about stereotypes at Big Sky High School.



Stormy Kipp and Maximus Sheka, Big Sky High School



Big Sky High School



Jake Arrowtop put up a teepee for Native American Heritage Week at Lewis & Clark Elementary



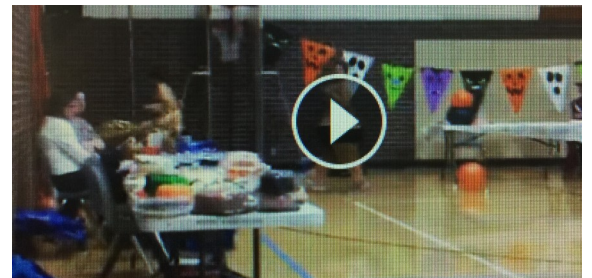
These girls from Washington Middle School did a great job of exhibition dancing and they even introduced themselves to their peers. .



Halloween Round Dance

Friday, October 28, 2016

Missoula County Public Schools
Indian Education Department
Presents:
Spooky Scary Halloween Rounddance
Where: Chief Charlo Elementary
5600 Longview Drive Missoula, MT
When: October 28, 2016 6-8pm
Community Potluck—Main Dish Provided



Sunday Funday

Sundays, January 8-February 26, 2017



OPEN GYM/SINGING/DRUMMING/SEWING
"SUNDAY FUNDAY"
WHERE: C.S. PORTER MIDDLE SCHOOL
WHEN: January 8,15,22,29; February 12,26; March 5,12
WHO: Students grade 5-12 (11-18yrs of age)
10yrs and under must be accompanied by an adult.
DODGEBALL, DOUBLEBALL, SHINNY HUNGRY HIPPO'S, BASKETBALL, KICKBALL, STICKGAME, DANCING, POWWOW SWEAT, JUST SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES THAT WE WILL BE DOING THIS YEAR FOR SUNDAY FUNDAY
Parents you are also encouraged to come out and participate
Light snacks and drink will be provided



*MUSIC SKIRT SEWING CLASS - 14yo and under will need a parent in order to run the sewing machines.
• Must be able to become registered at the Missoula Urban Indian Health Center.
• Register with Dana Kingfisher 829-9515 x109
• Transportation available





2017 NATIVE YOUTH POWWOW

APRIL 1, 2017
SENTINEL HIGH SCHOOL—MISSOULA, MT
JR AND TEEN CATEGORIES

1ST, 2ND, 3RD WILL BE PAID (17 AND UNDER)
BOYS—TRADITIONAL, GRASS, FANCY, AND CHICKEN
GIRLS—TRADITIONAL, FANCY, JINGLE
ALL TINYTOTS PAID (Must be in Regalia)
ADULT CATEGORIES—JACKPOT STYLE

MC — HOWIE THOMSON
AD — ALPHONSE OBEY
Head Young Man Dancer — TBA
Head Young Lady Dancer— TBA
HOST DRUM — PICKED EACH SESSION
FIRST 5 DRUMS "SET UP" (Min. 4 Singers) PAID

*VENDORS WELCOME \$50.00 PER TABLE
CONTACT: GLENDA WYSSLE @ 728-2400 EXT. 1063 or glwysle@mcps.k12.mt.us
MISSISSA HAMBRETT @ 728-2400 EXT. 1028 or mhambrett@mcps.k12.mt.us
STACY THACKER @ 728-2400 EXT. 1068 or sthacker@mcps.k12.mt.us
GRAND ENTRY 12PM (NOON) AND 6PM
COMMUNITY FEED DURING SUPPER BREAK 5pm
HOST MOTEL: SLEEP INN OF MISSOULA
3420 DORE LANE MISSOULA, MT 59801

- Facebook: MOUNTAIN INDIAN EDUCATION Dept.
Twitter: @SENTINELNATIVES
MCPS Native Youth Powwow 2017-18 Princess Pageant
MCPS Native Youth Powwow outgoing Princess Kamalah Preffy On Top Special
JR, Girls Jingle Dress Special
Weasel Family sponsored Tiny Tot Chicken Dance Special
Honoring the bringing in of grandson, "Michael Ross Weasel," to the powwow circle.
MCPS Indian Education Department annual "Hunies" Owl Dance Special (1,2,3)
World Championships of Cake Walk
Kids Activities (MUIHC)
Substance Abuse Prevention
Elder seating and Free Coffee (for Elders only)
Items to be raffled off, 50/50, Donations welcome



FREE EVENT, OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!



Disclaimer: Not responsible for lost or stolen items, injuries, expenses, illnesses, break-ups, or hook-ups. Please be responsible for your students and children. Be kind and respectful. Help the stars that may attend. DRUG AND ALCOHOL FREE EVENT!!!



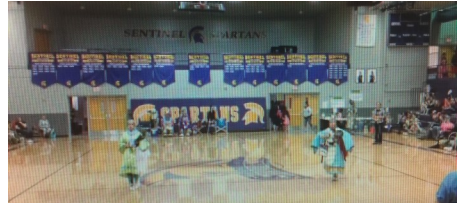
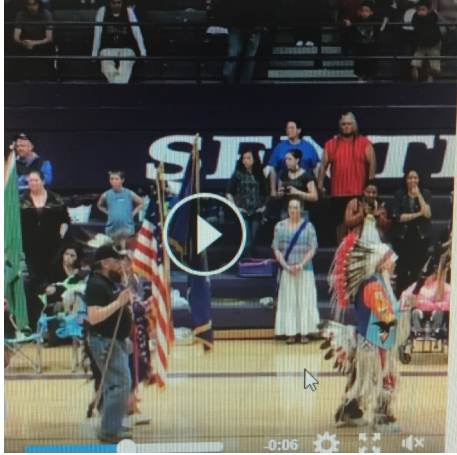
Howie Thomson, MC



Miss Native Youth Powwow 2017

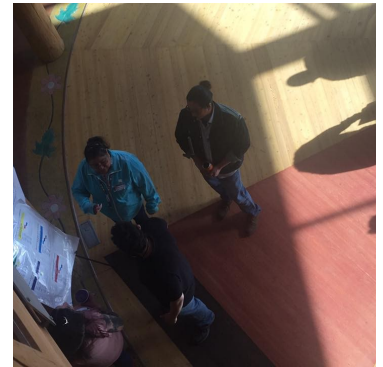
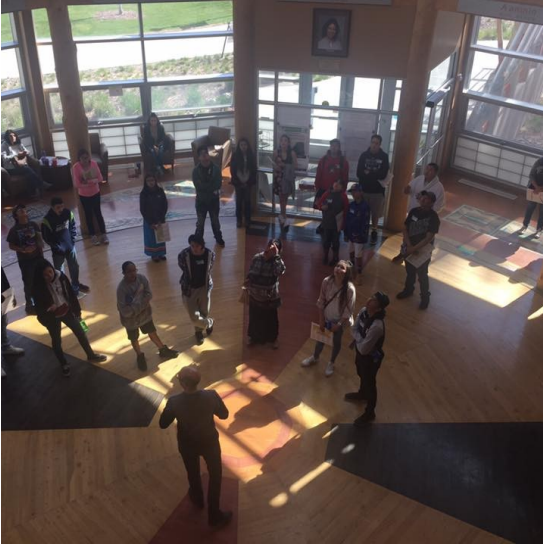


Native Youth Powwow Jackets, Donated by Missoula Urban Indian Center's Tobacco Coalition



Missoula Native Youth Conference
Collaboration with Montana Indian Education Association

Friday, April 21, 2017



Graduating Senior Dinner

Wednesday, May 24, 2017



[Click here](#) for picture collage, including the PowerPoint presented at the dinner.

"This dinner is a highlight for me and every year is an event that I look forward to. I truly enjoy hearing about the joys and challenges that you face daily and the dinner is an affirmation of the value in your work and the incredible amount of time and perseverance that goes in to embracing each student's vision. The guest speakers really touch on the core of our student's enthusiasm to embrace new experiences and the apprehension that goes with it."
— Diane Anderson, District Library

