

INDIAN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

SENIOR DINNER



We are honored to present our graduating seniors with a dinner. Staff is busy coordinating the dinner.

Confirmed speakers:
Master of Ceremonies
Michael Beers
MCPS School Board member
Superintendent of Schools
Alex Apostle
Denise Juneau
Superintendent of Public Instruction
Montana Office of Public Instruction
Jason Smith
Director of Indian Affairs
Office of the Governor
Mandy Smoker Broaddus
Director of Indian Education
Montana Office of Public Instruction

Seniors and their families, please remember to RSVP by May 9 to:

Cathie Cichosz — 406.728.2400 ext. 1064
ccichosz@mcps.k12.mt.us

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION DATES:

Saturday, June 7, 2014, Adams Center

- 10:00 AM—Hellgate
- 12:30 PM—Sentinel
- 3:00 PM—Big Sky

8TH GRADE PROMOTIONS:

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

<u>CS Porter</u>	<u>Meadow Hill</u>	<u>Washington</u>
6:00 PM	5:30 PM	7:30 PM
@Big Sky	@ Sentinel	@ Sentinel
High School	High School	High School

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Title VII Parent Advisory Committee Public Hearing	May 14 6-7:30 pm Board Room Business Bldg. @ Sen- tinel High School 901 South Ave. W.
Title VII Parent Advisory Committee Public Hearing	May 21 6-7:30 pm Board Room Business Bldg. @ Sen- tinel High School 901 South Ave. W.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MPS AIBL!!!!

Our MCPS AIBL Chapter recently returned from the annual national AIBL business competition in Fountain Hills, AZ. Our students competed in two competitions: the Business Plan Competition, and the Chapter Competition.

Our team won Chapter of the Year in the Pre-College Division. Students from MCPS that attended were: Matthew Weasel, Jalene Weasel, Kyle Fox-Daniels, Cora Phoenix-Price, Angalia Fish, and Quwana White. Advisors are Glenda Weasel and Kathy Sharbono.

-Kathy Sharbono



Our AIBL Team in Radisson Fort McDowell Resort, Arizona. Left to right: Gene Weasel, Chaperone; Glenda Weasel, Native American Specialist/Data Specialist/Title VII Specialist; Matthew Weasel, Willard Alternative High School; Cora Phoenix-Price, Hellgate High School; Angalia Fish, Big Sky High School; Jalene Weasel, Willard Alternative High School; Kyle Fox-Daniels, Willard Alternative High School; Kathy Sharbono, Teacher, Big Sky & Willard Alternative School.



The AIBL Team was pretty excited about receiving their award, shown to the right.



2014 AIBL Members, left to right: Tonja Kicking Woman, Big Sky; Angalia Fish, Big Sky; Kyle Fox-Daniels, Willard Alternative; Matthew Weasel, Willard Alternative; Quwana White, Willard Alternative; Cora Phoenix-Price, Hellgate; Shania Hall, Big Sky; Jalene Weasel, Willard Alternative; Alaia Small, Willard Alternative.

OUR AWESOME STUDENTS!!!



On April 24th at the Most Inspiring Student Banquet, four of our students were honored. They were Kyle Fox-Daniels from Willard School (pic at left), and Tazia Rowland from Big Sky High School (pic not available), Elvin Dog Taking Gun, Big Sky High School and Wisteria Liberty-Dupuis, Meadow Hill. A dinner for all students and their families and teachers was provided at Big Sky High School. Each student received a medal, certificate, and a food coupon. Way to go!!!

-Kathy Sharbano and Avis Chenoweth

Just found out that Savannah Koskela is the Student of the 6th Week at Willard Alternative High School. Congratulations!

Thank you, Kyi-Yo Powwow Committee, for donating tickets to Missoula County Public Schools 4th Grade students and Native American students.



We will sadly be saying farewell to our good friend, Kathy Sharbano at the end of this school year. Kathy has been with the Indian Ed. Department since 2002. Her contributions, both as a teacher at Big Sky High School and Willard Alternative School, and as our co-worker at the Indian Ed. Department, have been priceless to us.

We say thank you and send out nothing but good wishes to Kathy for her future and we know her students and other co-workers feel the same.

Kate Beals

Avis Chenoweth

Cathie Cichosz

Cecil B. Crawford

Thomas Tall Bull

Glenda Weasel



FROM AHKA'S CORNER

-Kate Beals

I am Ahka. I read with students from six out of the nine elementary schools at Missoula County Public Schools. Most of my students attend Hawthorne, Lewis & Clark, and Rattlesnake, and Paxson Elementary Schools. I see each class every two weeks, twice a month, so the Read Aloud program of the Indian Education Department keeps me busy, choosing books that will support the learning goals of each classroom, or researching for special presentations, like the one for Lowell 5th grade students from two classrooms on April 29. Students took notes to practice this skill prior to sixth grade. Another presentation is scheduled for Lowell on May 13.

I attended the Montana Indian Education Association Conference on April 17-29th at the Holiday Inn Downtown. I learned to discuss dreams and hopes of parents when the first home visit is done.

(Continued on next page)

Continued From Ahka's Corner

Instead of presenting learning issues, the conversation centers around the hopes and dreams of not only the parents, but also those who are visiting each home.

I am also presenting the INDIANS AND THE U.S. CONSTITUTION: A FORGOTTEN LEGACY to the Gifted and Talented Conference on May 23 at the University of Montana. The PowerPoint will be read for this presentation, since it will be 75 minutes long.

Teachers have been reserving their reading times with me for the next school year. The schedule should be ready at the end of August just before school starts.

I also have been reading books from the Klevenberg Collection, given to the department by the Klevenberg family, Starla Klevenberg. I read stories without pictures to 2nd grade students, who then have to use their imaginations to draw mental pictures from the words and to practice this prior to entering the next grade.

The work with a child needing assistance in reading is going very well. The involvement of the parents, who work with their child on high frequency words, is invaluable. This child has progressed very well in sounding out words the long way, then saying the words quickly. It is a pleasure to see how well this family is working together to improve the reading and comprehension of their child.

-Kate Beals

The Starving Artist's Corner

-Cecil B. Crawford

Oki, Cecil B. Crawford, 5/8 Blackfeet, 3/8 Starving Artist. Job Title: Native American Specialist. Every morning, I greet students and shake their hands at Willard, before school, unless I have meetings. I **was doing a "fun day" on Sundays at Hellgate, from 11-2, and I would feed them. We did beading, art, or had access to computers for projects. Because of the good weather, we aren't doing it anymore, but I will be teaching golf soon on Sunday.**

On Wednesdays, the Native American students meet in Ms. Larum's room during lunch at Hellgate. Dana Kingfisher has been doing presentations on tobacco, and she feeds them.

On Thursdays, we have an Art Club at lunch at Willard. I helped at the MCPS Youth Conference; actually, the President of UM was unavoidably detained, so I spoke in his place: Prez for a Day!

I also go to Seeley-Swan High School. The last time, I took at the Native students to lunch.



Artwork by
Cecil B. Crawford



In one of the more moving moments of an assembly for the MEA-MFT delegates, delegate Scott Stiegler told delegates he is growing his hair to donate for cancer patients. Stiegler is embarking on this project in honor of a close family friend who is in the last stages of cancer. He said 39 people have joined him in growing their hair to make wigs for cancer patients, and he invited other MEA-MFT delegates to join this effort too.

When he finished, Cecil B. Crawford, a member of the Blackfeet Nation, got up and said that his daughter had been diagnosed with cancer and was given **three months to live. "That was three years ago,"** he said. Crawford and other family members did **sweats and prayers, he said, "and now Mayo Clinic wants to know what happened. She's in complete remission."**

Crawford then announced that he wanted to donate **his braids, right then and there, for Scott Stiegler's** project. Someone produced a pair of scissors and to the thunderous cheers and standing ovation of fellow delegates, Stiegler cut off the braids and gave them to Crawford, who promptly handed them back.

There weren't many dry eyes in the house.

Later, Crawford said, **"That was the hardest thing I've ever done. Our hair is sacred."**

Cecil B. Crawford, as most of you know, is a most generous man, and the staff at the Indian Ed. Department are honored to work with him and learn from his generous ways.

Cecil, you humble us.

SUMMER MATH CAMP

Tentative dates: June 16-27, 2014. Look for upcoming news about a summer math camp for our Native American students. Contacts:

*Glenda Weasel at 728-2400, ext. 1063
gfweasel@mcps.k12.mt.us*

*OR Cathie Cichosz at 728-2400, ext. 1064
ccichosz@mcps.k12.mt.us*

New Employees

Carly Chenoweth is our newest Math Tutor, working at Chief Charlo and CS Porter. Carly graduated from the University of Montana and is an enrolled member of the Chippewa Cree of Rocky Boys Reservation. Cathie Cichosz was recently hired as the Native American Community Specialist. Cathie is an enrolled member of White Clay, otherwise known as Gros Ventre from the Fort Belknap Reservation. Cathie also graduated from the University of Montana.

Avis's Update

-Avis Chenoweth

Tansi,

The last months have been very busy and productive.

I have been working with Mr. Fines and Mr. Schaffer's Cold Springs' kindergarten classes. We are learning to count in Cree.

We have active Native Lunch Clubs at all middle schools. CS Porter 8th graders visited SKC February 14, 2014. We also finished a 4 week collaboration with Missoula Indian Center on Tobacco Prevention/ Fitness Awareness. On May 15, 2014 Washington Middle school will start the Tobacco Prevention/Fitness Awareness collaboration with Missoula Indian Center.

Also, 17 middle school 8th graders attended the Native Youth Conference April 16, 2014.

At Sentinel High School, I am working with every senior to ensure graduation and planning the Senior Dinner.

I am also serving on the Social Studies review committee and the TSSS Advisory Committee.



Scenes from
Native Youth
Powwow

—From The Missoulian

You are cordially invited to attend

CELEBRATE THE PROMOTION OF THE KINDERGARTEN AND 8TH GRADE NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENTS

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Date: Wednesday June 4, 2014
Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm
Where: City Life Community Center
(address from the S Valley Family Bowling Center)
 1515 Fairview Missoula, MT 59801

Certificates and gifts to be presented to students in attendance
(City Life student center with games, xboxes etc. will be open for kids to use)

Sponsored by:

- ↓ MCPS Indian Education Dept.
- ↓ Missoula Indian Center Tobacco Use Prevention Program
- ↓ City Life Community Center

Contact info: Glenda Weasel
 gfweasel@mcps.k12.mt.us (406)728-2400 ext. 1063

Ice Cream provided by THE BIG DIPPER



Native American Youth Conference

April 16th was the date for our conference. We had 109 middle school and high school students from many schools:

- Arlee School
- Big Sky High School
- Bishop School, Bishop California
- Browning High School
- Colstrip School
- CS Porter Middle School
- Cut Bank School
- Helena High School
- MCPS AIBL Chapter
- Meadow Hill Middle School
- Polson High School
- Ronan School
- Two Eagle River School
- Washington Middle School

Thank you to our presenters:
 Michael Beers
 Trilanda NoRunner
 Heidi Wallace
 Mike Jetty
 Krystal TwoBulls
 Wilena Old Person

Native American Youth Powwow

March 15, 2014 was the date for our Youth Powwow. Thanks to the community for coming out and supporting us for our 1st Annual Powwow! The feed was awesome! The dancing was good. Thanks to our Nakoa Heavy Runner, the MC, and Devon Kicknosway, our Arena Director, for a great powwow experience. Thanks to those who volunteered and to those great cooks in the kitchen!! Yum! Mostly, thanks to our Native Youth, for their awesome dancing.



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Missoula County Public Schools
Indian Education Department
215 South 6th Street
Missoula, MT 59801

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

To the Parent or Guardian of:

OR CURRENT RESIDENT



Mourning Dove Salish

1888-1936

..... everything on the earth has a purpose, every disease an herb to cure it, and every person a mission. This is the Indian theory of existence.