Lakota Language

Lakota Language will be offered at DCIS Baker, East High School and North High School starting the 2020-2021 school year.

For additional information, please contact Eileen Masquat at eileen_masquat@dpsk12.org.

NACE will raise the voice and visibility of our Native students and educators in the DPS

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Denver March Powwow Pass Distribution**  
  March 17, 2020, 3:00 pm—5:00 pm  
  Denver Indian Center, Inc.  
  4700 Morrison Rd., Denver, CO 80219

- **Denver March Powwow**  
  March 20-22, 2020  
  Denver Coliseum  
  4600 Humboldt, Denver, CO 80216

- **Equity Boot Camp/NACE Sponsored**  
  April 14, 2020, 8:00 am—4:00 pm  
  PPA Event Center  
  2105 Decatur St., Denver, CO 80211

- **Safe City Youth Summit**  
  April 10, 2020, 8:00 am—4:00 pm  
  Colorado Convention Center  
  700 14th St., Denver, CO 80202  
  Summit information: www.DPSYLT.com

- **DCIS Powwow**  
  May 8, 2020, 2:00 pm—6:00 pm  
  574 6th Ave., Denver, CO 80204

- **Dance To Your Future Powwow**  
  May 9, 2020, 12:00 pm—6:00 pm  
  TallBull Memorial Grounds  
  8682 N Daniels Park Rd., Sedalia, CO 80135

- **Senior Honoring**  
  May 16, 2020—Senior & Parent invite only

- **NASTEMI**  
  June—2020

- **Big City Mountaineers**  
  July—2020

- **College Horizons**  
  July—2020

**Save the Date:**

Native American Culture & Education Denver Public Schools  
Equity Boot Camp: The Native American Narrative Today  
April 14, 2020, 8 AM – 4 PM  
All are invited to attend: Administrators, Teachers, Students, Parents, and Community members.

For more information, contact Rose McGuire, rosemarie_mcguire@dpsk12.org

**Guest speakers include:**

Sheldon Spotted Elk, Northern Cheyenne, JD, the Indian Child welfare Act Program Director for Casey Family Programs, will speak about Historical Intergenerational Trauma

Mike Roberts, Tlingit, MBA is CEO & President of First Nations Development Institute will discuss “Reclaiming Native Truth”
Annual backpack and school supply distribution will be held in August at the Denver Indian Center, Inc., date will be advertised. Supplies are given to Denver Public Schools Native American Culture & Education Department students on a first come-first serve basis. Over 150 backpacks are disbursed to elementary, middle, and high school students.

Class of 2020!

Scholarships: Please go to our website to review and apply to the various scholarship opportunities at: http://indianeducation.dpsk12.org/scholarship-college-information/

FAFSA: 2020-2021 FAFSA is now available: https://studentaid.gov/announcements-events/fgsa-is-here

Apply for the Pell Grant & Colorado Opportunity Fund (COF). Contact your school counselor and Future Center counselor for assistance completing school admission applications and scholarships.

Backpack & School Supply Distribution

Native Excellence Student Recognition

Date & location to be determined

Requirement basis:
- Good attendance
- Parent will be notified by invitation
- Grades will be reviewed after first semester
- Cumulative 3.0 GPA and above for high school and middle school core classes
- P=Proficient 3 or 4s for elementary students
- Distinguished award cumulative 3.8 GPA or higher (You can be a distinguished scholar too!)
Melia Zepeda

**Congratulations to** Melia, senior at DSST: Montview high school for being crowned the Garden of Gods Powwow Princess for 2019-2020, chosen to represent the annual powwow held at the Rock Ledge Ranch in Colorado Springs.

**East High School’s Indigenous Peoples United**

Link below for 9News video segment on East Indigenous Club and article interview.  
https://www.9news.com/article/news/education/coolschoolseasths/73-3a576d70-ea42-4b0d-ab05-d1bf6b119687

**Jared Hodison Jr.**

Jared is of the Navajo Nation and a senior at Abraham Lincoln high school. On December 11, 2019, he was presented with the Future Leaders Award by Channel 4 news for his outstanding mentorship at NASTEMI, leadership on his robotics team, and training his teachers on Native American issues and other students at the AISES conference on bridging cultural gaps.

Congratulations to Jared, an inspiring young individual.

**Cory Whitehat**

Presented the Land Acknowledgement at the Universal conference for Denver Public Schools at the Stanley Marketplace located in Aurora, CO. Cory also spoke on the importance of recognizing those before us is important for our future.

**Native H.O.P.E.**

Native H.O.P.E. (Helping Our People Endure) is a trauma- and strength-based curriculum in Indian Country by Native Youth to address and break the “Code of Silence.” Furthermore, a suicide and substance misuse prevention program to addressing warning signs and increasing the strengths of among our Native Youth in schools. The proactive curriculum includes the diversity and inclusion of Native culture, traditions, spirituality, ceremonies, and humor.

NACE is developing the curriculum at the following high schools in the district: Denver East, Colorado Charter, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, West Early College, West Leadership Academy, George Washington, and South. Currently, North High School has received the curriculum and West Early College will have the training at the end of March. Ultimately, we want to provide strategic prevention strategies in all domains with individuals, students, parents, health-and school-based providers, and spiritual leaders.
IMPORTANT

Ethnicity Code #1
When registering your student for school, the Registration Form asks parents to identify the student’s ethnicity. While your student may have more than one ethnic group, it’s important that only one ethnic group is identified. We recommend that if you identify as American Indian, please check ONLY American Indian.

American Indian or Alaskan Native—A person having origins in any of the original people of North America and who maintains cultural identification through tribal or community recognition.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

- American Indian College Fund
  8333 Greenwood Blvd., Denver, CO 80221
  303.426.8900 | www.collegefund.org

- Denver Indian Center, Inc.
  4407 Morrison Rd, Denver, CO 80219
  303.936.2688 | www.denverindiancenter.org

- Denver Indian Family Resource Center
  1633 Fillmore St. GL2a, Denver, CO 80206
  720.500.1020 | www.difrc.org

- Denver Indian Health & Family Services
  2880 W. Holden Pl., Denver, CO 80204
  303.953.6600 | www.dihfs.org

NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURE & EDUCATION TEAM

*Meet our new team members*

Melanie Archuleta, BA, MFA
melanie_archuleta@dpsk12.org
Office: 720-423-3749

Melanie is a member of the Kaibab Paiute tribe and grew up in Denver, Colorado. She is a Native American Culture & Education Specialist at Lake Middle school and North High School to support the AI/AN students.

Melanie has her BA in Anthropology and MFA in Creative Writing. She looks forward to helping students become confident in advocating for themselves. Melanie guest lectures at local universities, in classrooms when invited. She uses language as a source of healing.

Brandon Smith, MSW, MPH
(He, Him, His)
brandon_smith@dpsk12.org
Office: 720-423-3744

Brandon is member of the Navajo Nation, born/raised in New Mexico. He serves at the Native H.O.P.E. Program Specialist with child, youth, and families on suicide and substance misuse prevention.

He recently obtained his Master of Social Work and Master of Public Health from Washington University in St. Louis. His concentration includes AI/AN and Health Behavior and Health Education.

He is passionate about giving students and families the tools and guidance on best-practices addressing the social determinants of health of AI/AN communities to manage prevention programs through a transdisciplinary approach.

Marcus Cyrus (Apsaalooke Nation)
Native American Culture & Equity Specialist
marcus_cyrus@dpsk12.org
Office: 720-423-2595

Gwen Holmes (Cheyenne River Oyate Lakota)
Lakota Language Instructor & Student Support
gwen_holmes@dpsk12.org
Office: 720-423-9071

Eileen Masquat (Sicangu Lakota)
Lakota Language Instructor
eileen_masquat@dpsk12.org
Cell: 605-828-0170

Rose Marie McGuire (Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate)
Program Manager
rosemarie_mcguire@dpsk12.org
Office: 720-423-2042

Susie Mitchell (Dine’/Oglala Lakota)
Communications & Data
susie_mitchell@dpsk12.org
Office: 720-423-2052

Beulah Morman (Diné)
School Psychologist
beulah_morman@dpsk12.org
Office: 720-423-2044

Jason Watson (Chickasaw Nation)
Native American Culture & Equity Specialist
jason_watson2@dpsk12.org
Office: 720-423-2583

American Indian College Fund
8333 Greenwood Blvd., Denver, CO 80221
303.426.8900 | www.collegefund.org

Denver Indian Family Resource Center
1633 Fillmore St. GL2a, Denver, CO 80206
720.500.1020 | www.difrc.org

Denver Indian Health & Family Services
2880 W. Holden Pl., Denver, CO 80204
303.953.6600 | www.dihfs.org

When registering your student for school, the Registration Form asks parents to identify the student’s ethnicity. While your student may have more than one ethnic group, it’s important that only one ethnic group is identified. We recommend that if you identify as American Indian, please check ONLY American Indian.

American Indian or Alaskan Native—A person having origins in any of the original people of North America and who maintains cultural identification through tribal or community recognition.

*Meet our new team members*

Melanie Archuleta, BA, MFA
melanie_archuleta@dpsk12.org
Office: 720-423-3749

Melanie is a member of the Kaibab Paiute tribe and grew up in Denver, Colorado. She is a Native American Culture & Education Specialist at Lake Middle school and North High School to support the AI/AN students.

Melanie has her BA in Anthropology and MFA in Creative Writing. She looks forward to helping students become confident in advocating for themselves. Melanie guest lectures at local universities, in classrooms when invited. She uses language as a source of healing.

Brandon Smith, MSW, MPH
(He, Him, His)
brandon_smith@dpsk12.org
Office: 720-423-3744

Brandon is member of the Navajo Nation, born/raised in New Mexico. He serves at the Native H.O.P.E. Program Specialist with child, youth, and families on suicide and substance misuse prevention.

He recently obtained his Master of Social Work and Master of Public Health from Washington University in St. Louis. His concentration includes AI/AN and Health Behavior and Health Education.

He is passionate about giving students and families the tools and guidance on best-practices addressing the social determinants of health of AI/AN communities to manage prevention programs through a transdisciplinary approach.

Marcus Cyrus (Apsaalooke Nation)
Native American Culture & Equity Specialist
marcus_cyrus@dpsk12.org
Office: 720-423-2595

Gwen Holmes (Cheyenne River Oyate Lakota)
Lakota Language Instructor & Student Support
gwen_holmes@dpsk12.org
Office: 720-423-9071

Eileen Masquat (Sicangu Lakota)
Lakota Language Instructor
eileen_masquat@dpsk12.org
Cell: 605-828-0170

Rose Marie McGuire (Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate)
Program Manager
rosemarie_mcguire@dpsk12.org
Office: 720-423-2042

Susie Mitchell (Dine’/Oglala Lakota)
Communications & Data
susie_mitchell@dpsk12.org
Office: 720-423-2052

Beulah Morman (Diné)
School Psychologist
beulah_morman@dpsk12.org
Office: 720-423-2044

Jason Watson (Chickasaw Nation)
Native American Culture & Equity Specialist
jason_watson2@dpsk12.org
Office: 720-423-2583

When registering your student for school, the Registration Form asks parents to identify the student’s ethnicity. While your student may have more than one ethnic group, it's important that only one ethnic group is identified. We recommend that if you identify as American Indian, please check ONLY American Indian.

American Indian or Alaskan Native—A person having origins in any of the original people of North America and who maintains cultural identification through tribal or community recognition.

*Meet our new team members*

Melanie Archuleta, BA, MFA
melanie_archuleta@dpsk12.org
Office: 720-423-3749

Melanie is a member of the Kaibab Paiute tribe and grew up in Denver, Colorado. She is a Native American Culture & Education Specialist at Lake Middle school and North High School to support the AI/AN students.

Melanie has her BA in Anthropology and MFA in Creative Writing. She looks forward to helping students become confident in advocating for themselves. Melanie guest lectures at local universities, in classrooms when invited. She uses language as a source of healing.

Brandon Smith, MSW, MPH
(He, Him, His)
brandon_smith@dpsk12.org
Office: 720-423-3744

Brandon is member of the Navajo Nation, born/raised in New Mexico. He serves at the Native H.O.P.E. Program Specialist with child, youth, and families on suicide and substance misuse prevention.

He recently obtained his Master of Social Work and Master of Public Health from Washington University in St. Louis. His concentration includes AI/AN and Health Behavior and Health Education.

He is passionate about giving students and families the tools and guidance on best-practices addressing the social determinants of health of AI/AN communities to manage prevention programs through a transdisciplinary approach.