

Indigenous Insider

October 2024

MCPS NASS staff shareouts

October was a fun and busy month! We were joined by Missoula artist Tabitha Beard for a two part professional development course. In this class, teachers were challenged to use art, mapmaking and history to learn about the traditional and contemporary homelands of Montana's tribes, as well as their names and languages. We're excited to be partnering with SPARK! Arts Ignite to offer more arts-focused IEFA training for teachers this year. Looking forward, I'm so excited for our first IEFA Book Club in November and working with the 40 phenomenal teachers who signed up to participate. Finally, I'm wrapping up my time with the Native American Student Services Team. In a few weeks, I'm moving back to Minneapolis, Minnesota to be closer to my family and to start a new career adventure there. I'm so grateful to my NASS colleagues past and present, as well as our incredible community of students and families!



October was a whirlwind that went by very quickly. Being an instructional coach is an interesting job, and I have found that you can hook teachers just like you hook the students: with bribery! Everyone loves pizza and snacks, so I try to bring some when I work with a staff. This month, I spent time at Willard during the teacher work times and was able to make some good connections. I will continue to schedule appointments with individuals and teaching teams, ensuring that we are delivering high quality IEFA lessons to our students. Our team has been providing professional development for teachers in the form of work sessions, book studies, and model lesson plan workshops in order to help staff build confidence in their delivery. I continue to travel to Seeley-Swan High School once per month, to work with the Native students and facilitate a RISE meeting. This month, we carved pumpkins and heard some spooky traditional tales. As I type this, I am hoping for a fun and well-attended Halloween carnival that is going to take place at Franklin School this evening. A special thank you to the folks who volunteered and contributed to this event.



MCPS Native American Student Services

**909 South Ave W.
Building B, Rm 120
Missoula, MT 59802**



Forward Thinking, High Achieving.

This month I organized college night for juniors and seniors. I invited Brittney Hunter, Native American Center of Excellence; Dr. Karla Bird, Tribal Outreach Specialist; Michelle Guzman, Director of American Indian Student Services; and Laura Bird, Financial Aid Representative. They came and shared information about each of their departments. They also came to the high schools and talked with students about college applications and financial aid.

Willard: I got to join in their circle groups then the following week I lead a group with the Native students and we did some beading.

Lewis and Clark Elementary: Had our first All Nations meeting. We are working on an assembly for next month, Native American Heritage Month

Washington Middle School: We talked about language. How many different tribes that were represented at the school. Who spoke their language and who can understand their language. Was it spoken at home? It was nice to hear all their different answers.

Hellgate High School: I got a student who is working on an language project, so got to help her with finding some funding and some materials that would help her.

Sentinel High School: There was a good amount of new students coming into Sentinel this month, so I meet with them and helped them get familiar with the school and with our office.

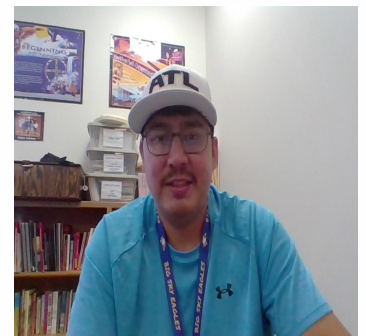


Hello,

I work with students from grades K-12. At Franklin we started playing stickgame but it was a little too technical for K-2. I switched to rock and fist, a game similar to stickgame. I will be coaching 7th and 8th grade boys basketball at Meadowhill. During most lunches there, we play stickgame and basketball.

At Porter we play a mix of stickgame and double ball, depending on how many students want to participate. When I'm at Big Sky we have the Rise meetings and also have meetings with the seniors on Graduation deadlines.

At all four schools, I do daily check-ins with students that are struggling or have been referred by counselors. We are also having a stickgame tournament in January and I want the students to get as much practice as possible before then.



Community and Department Events



On October 4th our department went to Russell Elementary school to present on Social Dances. The students learned the round dance, potato dance and the owl dance.



Beartracks PowWow



Supaman





Halloween Carnival



If you would like to share your knowledge and become a cultural consultant for our department, please reach out to Charlie Struna at cstruna@mcpsmt.org for more information. Please include your name and area of expertise.

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

All Nations Health Center
Sentinel Key Club and Honor Society
Big Sky Key Club
Hellgate Art Club
Washington Middle School Ambassadors
Alyssa Johnson, Julie Cahoon, Matt Bell, Jude Juneau, Kayla Beth Charlo
PTOs: Chief Charlo, Rattlesnake, Franklin, Lewis and Clark, Lowell, Paxson, Russell,
Meadow Hill
MCPS Fine Arts Department



MISSOULA COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENT SERVICES



> > 2024-2025 COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR < <

EVENT NAME	DATE	TIME	VENUE
Back to School BBQ	Monday, Aug. 26	5-6:30 pm	Sentinel High School
American Indian Heritage Day Round Dance	Friday, Sept. 27	6 - 9 pm	C.S. Porter Middle School
SEPTEMBER 27: AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE DAY (MONTANA)			
SEPTEMBER 30: ORANGE SHIRT DAY - NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE (US/CANADA)			
OCTOBER 14: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY (US)			
Supaman	Friday, Oct. 25	7 - 8 pm	Sentinel High School Auditorium
Halloween Carnival	Tuesday, Oct. 29	6 - 8 pm	Franklin Elementary School
NOVEMBER: NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH			
Pemmican Making Class	Monday, Nov. 4 Monday, Nov. 11 Monday, Nov. 25	5:30-8 pm	Balsamroot Room at the Insectarium & Butterfly House
Bingo Night	Friday, Dec. 6	6 - 8 pm	TBA
Stick Game	Wednesday, Jan. 15	6 - 8 pm	MCPS Admin B
Ribbon Skirt and Shirt Sewing Class	Monday, Feb. 3 Monday, Feb. 10	5:30 - 8 pm	Balsamroot Room at the Insectarium & Butterfly House
Native Youth Powwow	April 26	12 - 10 pm	Sentinel High School
MAY 5: NATIONAL MISSING & MURDERED INDIGENOUS PERSONS' AWARENESS DAY (US)			
Native Graduates Senior Dinner	Tuesday, May 20	6 - 8 pm	Fairgrounds
End of Year Celebration	Tuesday, June 10	5 - 6:30 pm	Sentinel High School

MCPS Native American Student Services



SUNDAY FUNDAY

SPORTS – CULTURE – MOVEMENT

Join our FREE Sunday activities to get your body moving and spend time with your friends! For MCPS Native American students ages 8 and up!

Activities:

- Open gym
- Dancing
- Stick Game
- Basketball
- Beading

Big Sky High School
10 am – 2 pm
Every Sunday starting Sept. 1

Information Contact:

Leigh Malatare
406-728-2400 ext. 1047





PEMMICAN MAKING CLASS ~3-PART SERIES~



November 4th



November 11th



November 25th

5:30-8:30 PM

At the Insectarium and Butterfly House
Balsamroot Room
1075 South Ave. West



Join Valerie and Gisele
Forrest as they teach us how
to make pemmican: a high-
calorie, nutrient dense
superfood that was a staple of
many American Indian diets,
and is still prepared today.



SPONSORED BY
MCPS
Native American Student
Services Department



ELOUISE COBELL DAY CELEBRATION



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH

12:00 P.M. PAYNE CENTER

Opening Prayer & Honor Song

12:30 P.M. THE OVAL

Round Dance & Lunch

1:00 - 1:30 P.M. PAYNE CENTER

Special Guest Speaker: Carol Juneau, Retired Educator/Legistrator

2:00 - 3:30 P.M. PAYNE CENTER

Cobell Recipient Panel (Zoom)



Scan Here
for Zoom

On November 5, 2015 Governor Steve Bollock proclaimed November 5th as Elouise Cobell Day. Elouise led a class action lawsuit against the United States Government for mismanagement of funds across Indian Country. Elouise was persistent and determined to fight for justice. After the 15 years of litigation, a settlement was made in the amount of \$3.4 Billion Dollars. Like a Blackfeet woman warrior, Elouise Cobell is the Great Granddaughter of Mountain Chief. She was an activist, banker, philanthropist, community developer, rancher, and worked as treasurer for the Blackfeet Nation.



NASS Dept would like to invite you to our

MONTHLY PAC MEETING

First Wednesday of
the Month
November 6, 2024
6-8pm

Admin Building B
909 South Ave W

We hope you can make it. Potluck style dinner. Bring your favorite dish to share. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Contact Person: Billie Jo



||Bjuneau@mcpsmt.org || 406.728.2400. ext 1063

Your paragraph text
Your paragraph text