



BVSD Title VII Indian Education Newsletter
November-December Issue 5, 2005

This newsletter has been brought to you by:

Department of Institutional Equity & Multicultural Education

For additions, announcements or comments, please feel free to contact Will Seamans at:

(303) 447-5296
william.seamans@bvsd.org

"The earth has received the embrace of the sun and we shall see the results of that love."

Chief Sitting Bull
~~~~~  
"It takes a thousand voices to tell a single story."  
  
**Native American Proverb**  
~~~~~  
"It is better to return a borrowed pot with a little something you last cooked in it!"

Native American Proverb

A Special Thanks goes out to:
Theresa Halsey
Indian Voices Program
KGNU Community Radio

A Glance at 2005

Five years into the new millennium. As I think about the fact that the year 2005 has almost come and gone, I am both amazed and shocked! It seems like just yesterday that the new millennium began!

As I view the list of students that have been involved in a Title VII American Indian Program throughout the last three years, I realize how many wonderful people I have had the opportunity to work with. I am reminded of all the parents who took the time to sign their children up for our programs, the tutors who have volunteered their time to benefit a youngster, the teachers who spend countless hours outside of the classroom assisting in the tutoring process, and of course, the students.

I have seen students rise to the challenge of improving their grades and test scores, work diligently to catch up before the end of a semester, and exclaim their joy in a finished math assignment. These same students continue to amaze me with their ability to impact tutors and teachers with their unique and wonderful personalities. Most importantly, the students in our program have my utmost respect because they have chosen to do everything possible in order to get the most out of the education they are receiving. For that I am greatly appreciative!

To everyone who has worked so hard to give each student every opportunity to excel, thank you! Your efforts do not go unnoticed...

My Warmest Regards,

Will Seamans

Community Liaison
Editor, *Indian Education Newsletter*
Boulder Valley School District



Title VII American Indian Tutoring Program

Program Update

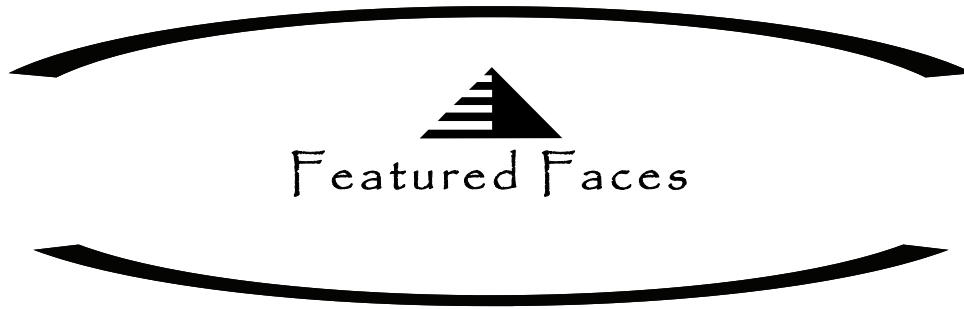
The Fall Semester tutoring got off to a slow start as we went through a multitude of office changes, technological changes, and systems changes. Thankfully, many students still benefited from the program.

The program currently has tutors placed in ten different schools within the district providing nearly twenty hours of tutoring a week to students. As numbers are down from last semester, we plan on expanding our services to as many students as possible next semester after hiring additional tutors to work at schools who do not have a program yet in place.

We hope to improve the effectiveness of the tutoring program for next semester in three very important ways:

- Register students who are currently being tutored and those who have registration forms in for tutoring services **next** semester before the end of this semester. This will ensure that tutoring begins sooner in the semester for next term.
- We are in the process of hiring additional paid tutors who can begin tutoring once school resumes for second semester. Once again, this should allow for tutoring to begin at a sooner date.
- Finally, we hope to recruit teachers, counselors, and principals to help students who qualify for our program to register and begin tutoring next semester.

We hope to increase our tutoring capacity as well as gain numbers as we enter the new semester!



Each issue our staff finds a student, tutor, teacher, or parent to recognize. The featured individual is distinguished for their commitment to attaining the best education possible for themselves or for another.

Kassandra Madrid
Not Just Another Face in the Crowd



Kassandra Madrid (right) is this month's "Featured Face". Kassie is a Sophomore at Centaurus High School in Lafayette, Colorado. She is very passionate about racial issues and diversity and she is considered to be a young activist within the district. She is a participant in the American Indian Youth Leadership Conference, which has allowed her to learn about leadership roles and the American Indian Community. She is a very bright and motivated student who reciprocates ideas very well with her tutor.

This is Kassie's first year participating in the American Indian Tutoring Program and we already see advancement in comprehension and application of her work.

Kassie's tutor is Mimie Yang (left), a Senior at the University of Colorado studying Biology and pre-medicine. Between classes, labs, and studying, Mimie enjoys spending her time working with young students. Originally from the Bronx, New York, Mimie understands the importance of giving every student the opportunity to a quality education. Mimie also serves as a Community Liaison for Boulder Valley School District. Besides setting up tutors with students and helping coordinate the Tutoring Program, Mimie has additionally taken on the role of tutor and mentor to many students within the American Indian Tutoring Program.

If you would like to nominate an individual for "Featured Faces", please email or call Will Seamans at: william.seamans@bvsd.org or 303.447.5296.



PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Indian Voices Newsletter

Happenings in the American Indian World

Look at www.indiancountrynews.com is News From Indian Country. If you click on the banner on their web site, you will be directed to a site where you can either subscribe or try a sample of their new E-edition, a tree less and environmentally safe way to read the happenings across Indian Country.

Look at www.fortnet.org/PowWow/events.html for local powwows and happenings in Colorado.

Look at www.native-voice.com a bi-monthly Native newspaper from Rapid City, SD.

Look at www.lakotajournal.com a weekly newspaper from Rapid City, SD. (This site is under construction)

Look at www.nativepeoples.com a Native magazine published every two months

16th Annual Christmas Bazaar, Friday-Saturday, December 2-3, 2005, from 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. at the Christian Indian Center, 501 South Pearl Street, in Denver, CO. It is located at the corner of Virginia & Pearl. Call (303) 733-3693 for directions. Bazaar contact person is Fannie Crank (303) 682-9540. Email christian_indian_center@msn.com for more information about the Native Arts & Crafts, Silver/Turquoise Jewelry, baked goods, Navajo tacos, mutton stew and fry bread that will be for sale.

Denver Christian Indian Center Christmas Concert Featuring the Plateros, Saturday, December 3, 2005, at 7:30 p.m. at 501 S. Pearl Street, (corner of Virginia & Pearl) in Denver, CO. The Plateros are an Native American Gospel Blues Band. They will be at the Sunday, December 4, 2005, service at 10:30 a.m. at the Christian Indian Center, 501 S. Pearl Street, in Denver, CO. For more information look at <http://www.nativecpmusic.com>, email christian_indian_center@msn.com or call (303) 733-3693.

Christmas Pow Wow and Holiday Market, Saturday, December 10, 2005, at the Park Hill United Methodist Church, 5209 Montview Blvd. in Denver, CO. All dancers and drummers are welcome. Admission is free! And so is the parking. Look at <http://www.alternativevoices.org> for more information.

Christmas Community Dinner and Santa Arrives, Sunday, December 11, 2005, at 5209 Montview Blvd., in Denver, CO. Free and open to the American Indian community and service organization staff. Look at <http://www.alternativevoices.org/RegionalEventsCalendar.html> for future updates.

Lakota Nations Education Conference, Wednesday-Saturday, December 14-17, 2005, at the Ramkota Inn & Quality Inn, in Rapid City, SD. \$75 registration.
Send \$75 registration to Jackie Roth, PO Box 190, Batesland, SD 57716.

4th Annual Well Nations Conference, Wednesday-Sunday, December 14-18, 2005, at the Alex Johnson Hotel, in Rapid City, SD. The theme is "Decolonizing the Wounded Warrior-Re-Honoring Our Sacred Life Givers." This conference is during the Lakota Nations Invitational-High School Holiday Sports Classic. at the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center. Contact Kevin Pensika, SR, Well Nations, Inc. 520 Kansas City Street, #308, Rapid City, SD 57701. (605) 348-9283. Fax: (605) 348-9284. Registration is \$350. You can also look at the web at <http://www.wellnations.com> or email kevin@wellnations.com



PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Indian Voices Newsletter

Denver Indian Center's Community Christmas Dinner, Friday, December 16, 2005, at 4407 Morrison Road, in Denver, CO from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Look at <http://www.denverindiancenter.org> for more information.

Prairie Island Pow Wow, Friday-Sunday, December 16-18, 2005, at the Community Center, Prairie Island, Minnesota. 1-800-554-5473 ext. 2512. Look at <http://www.prairieisland.org> for more information.

Arts & Crafts Sale at the Native American Empowerment Circle, Saturday, December 17, 2005, from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Admission and parking are FREE! Food concession and Rummage Sale. Call (303) 201-1101 for more information.

Native American Women's Empowerment Circle, Free classes on Mondays & Thursdays from 6:00-9:00 p.m. at Four Winds, 201 West 5th Avenue, in Denver, CO. Sewing, Beadwork, Star Quilt Making, Cooking, and Regalia making. Join the NAWEC Talking Circle on the first Monday of every month! Elders Meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of each month from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Call (303) 629-0224 for more information.

The Youth Programs are providing free Native Hip Hop Classes for Native youth. The classes take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Look at their website at www.dihfs.org for more information about the Youth Program activities or call Danica Brown, (303) 718-4050.

Dine' of Colorado

web sites are: <http://www.DinehofDenver.com> or <http://www.ColoradoNativeAmerican.com> with a Discussion Board. It's purpose is to bring the Navajo in Northern Colorado together, to teach the children the language and culture and support Navajo Businesses. Contact Genevieve Toledo at genbtoledo@dinehofdenver.com if you have questions and for more information.

The American Nurturing Parenting Program, started October 18, 2005-January 24, 2005, and are held on Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. This Program is a free, 15 week group based program where parents and children learn about empathy, appropriate behaviors, brain development, rewards and punishments, praise and self-esteem, non-violent discipline and ways to have fun as a family. The American Indian program will offer: Parent Group, Youth Group ages 5-11, American Indian stories and games, a light dinner, childcare (Siblings under 5) and monthly family activities. Call Carrie Howell at (303) 871-8035 x 235 for additional information and registration.

Native Nation Radio Program Tune in on Tuesdays in Fort Collins from 8:00-10:00 p.m. to KRFC 88.9 FM Call the host, Bo Johnson at (970)221-5075 .Look at <http://www.krfcfm.org> for more information.

Cheyenne Visions II Exhibit at the C-Level, Morrison Concourse at the Denver Art Museum, March 17, 2004 - December 31, 2005, at the Denver Art Museum, 100 W. 14th Avenue Pkwy., Denver, CO 80204. This exhibit combines Cheyenne art works in the DAM collection with 20 spectacular oversized color photographs that reveal the cultural history between Cheyenne people and their art. Look at their new web resource at <http://www.denverartmuseum.org/cheyennevisions2> to see the artwork.

If you know of an upcoming event that you would like to share with the BVSD American Indian Community, please contact Will Seamans at william.seamans@bvsd.org or at 303.447.5296.



Educational Opportunities

Boulder Valley Schools Youth Leadership Institute You can view their website at www.bvsgd.k12.co.us/equity/indianyouth

Sallie Mae Offers Advice to College Bound High School Seniors: When It Comes to Getting Money to Pay for College, the Early Bird Gets the Worm, FAFSA - Free Application for Federal Student Aid - May be Submitted Beginning January 1, 2005. The form is available on line at www.fafsa.ed.gov Sallie Mae's College Answer has tools and information to simplify the application process and help families navigate the process. Visit www.CollegeAnswer.com/fafsa for more information.

The Native Workforce at the Denver Indian Center, 4407 Morrison Road, in Denver, CO offers free classes for adults (18+) "Computer Essentials Class". Learn Microsoft Office 2000 Essentials. Four Weeks Paid Training. Class schedule is starting July 18, 2005. "Online Job Search Class". Two weeks paid training. Learn to Brush Up on Your Job Search Techniques. Class Schedule: June 28, 2005. Eligibility Requirements for all Classes and Native Workforce Programs. Must be American Indian with a tribal ID or letter of certification of degree of Indian blood. Must be unemployed and seeking permanent employment with proof of income for past six months. State ID and social security card. Application Hours: M - Th. from 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. & 1:00 - 3:30 p.m. at 4407 Morrison Road, in Denver, CO. Call them at (303)936-2688 ext. 13 for more information. Look at their website at www.denverindiancenter.org for more information.

"DIC Family and Community Resources," are Emergency Food Bank, on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 - 11:45 a.m. Emergency Referrals and Information, and Volunteer Opportunities are available. Call (303)936-2688.

Denver Indian Family Resource Center, 393 S. Harlan, Suite 100, (Villa East II Building), in Lakewood, CO. Call (303)871-8035 for support, referrals and Indian Child Welfare Advocacy for families that are involved with county departments of social services. Please call if you have questions on child welfare issues, youth prevention programs or need information on tribal enrollment process.



“The Unbreakable Code”

By: Sara Hoagland Hunter, 1996

Story Synopsis:

A young Navajo boy is hiding up in the rock canyon cliffs avoiding his family. John’s mother married out of her culture to a man from Minnesota; the school John would attend was attended by English speaking students only and John didn’t want to leave his grandparents, the land, or forget his language.

His grandfather finds him and tells his story of becoming a Marine in special duty as a code talker during World War II. The Navajo, as most Native Americans who had their own language, were not allowed in boarding schools across the U.S. to speak their language. The Japanese were able to break all of the American radio codes except for the Indian language. Six months before the war ended, Navajo code talkers passed more than 800 messages in two days during the invasion of Iwo Jima, “when the American flag was raised on Mount Suribachi, the victory was announced in code to the American fleet. The author and illustrator had personal interviews with Navajo code talkers making this story authentic. The code talkers saved thousands of American lives.

“ A River Lost”

By, Lynn Bragg

Story Synopsis

In what is now the state of Washington lived the Arrow Lakes Tribe, now a portion of the Colville Confederated Nations. This story tells about their way of life around the Columbian River. Their ancient culture existed for thousands of years dependent on the salmon at the river’s falls. When the U.S. government built the Grand Coulee Dam in the 1930’s on their land, their village was flooded. They were promised payment, but it took the government over 50 years to pay the Arrow Lake Tribe. The salmon could not swim back to spawn and stopped coming. The dam had wiped out their entire town called “Inchelium”. They received little notice; therefore many of them did not move their homes out of the path of the flood waters until the water was upon them. This destruction was unbelievable to them. The government burned the homes of the people to build a man-made lake. Social life and community connections took place at the River and its Falls. The salmon had no waterfall ladders to help them swim up the Fall to spawn. In the summer they lived in deerskin teepees, and in later years in the winters they had log cabins.

Note to students and parents: There is a lending library at the Education Center located at 6500 Arapahoe where you can find the books above along with many more focused on American Indian culture and awareness. Feel free to stop by at any time and check one out. The library has reading for both children and adults available at no cost!