



BVSD Title VII Indian Education Newsletter
September-October **Issue 1, 2006**

Greetings and welcome back to a new school year in the Boulder Valley School District. We, in the Institutional Equity and Multicultural Education Department, welcome you and hope that you and your family enjoyed the summer break.

As we look forward to a successful year for our students the district is pleased to inform you that we have again received funds from the Federal Formula Grant for American Indian Students, Title VII. The focus of the grant is on supporting students who have performed below the proficiency level on reading and/or math CSAP with tutoring services . This year the program has been expanded to include students from the third through twelfth grades.

For your information, the number of American Indian students enrolled in the district is approximately 250 students, preschool through high school. Thirty-six percent of the students are in preschool to 5th grade, 24% are in middle school, and 40% are in high school.

We would also like to take this opportunity to introduce Ryan Findley, who will be assisting Mimie Yang and Will Seamans with the American Indian tutoring program both as a tutor and co-coordinator. Ryan is a graduate of the University of Colorado-Boulder and has extensive experience in student leadership, mentoring, and grant-writing. As Will phases out his involvement with this program later this year, Ryan and Mimie look forward to meeting with students and parents to discuss specific tutoring needs. They plan to continue publishing this newsletter, which is sent to your home bi-monthly, and coordinating community get-togethers like Open Houses or the upcoming Parent Advisory Committee meeting on September 13, 2006. Please see subsequent page for details. We are glad you will be joining us this year!

Wishing you and your children a very successful school year,

Pam Duran
 Boulder Valley School District Equity Office

This newsletter has been brought to you by:
 Department of Institutional Equity & Multicultural Education
For additions, announcements, or comments, please feel free to contact Ryan Findley at:
 (303) 447-5296
 Ryan.Findley@bvsd.org

"Don't ask what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive, and go do it. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive."
 ~Howard Thurman~

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**American Indian Webpage**

The Website is currently being updated, but will soon be found at:

<http://www.bvsd.org/C17/Equity/Pages/American%20Indian%20Education%20Pages.aspx>

If you would like to make an online post, please contact:  
 Ryan.Findley@BVSD.org.

**Did you know?**  
 There are about 150 Native American languages in Canada and the United States





Title VII American Indian Tutoring Program



## New Beginnings

Hello! Welcome back to another year! It is hard to believe the summer flew by so quickly. My name is Ryan Findley and I was hired over the summer to eventually assume Will Seamans' position with the Title VII American Indian Grant. I am excited to help Will "phase out" and begin taking over many of his responsibilities.

One of Will's former responsibilities that I will assume is the writing of a bi-monthly newsletter. My hope is that the newsletter will serve as an important communication tool for myself, students, parents, teachers, and administrators alike. By combining a wealth of information, I hope to make this newsletter a helpful addition to your daily lives. Whether announcing community forums and upcoming events or scholarship announcements and book reviews, I hope this will be a helpful resource for all.

I welcome any and all feedback on the newsletter and encourage you, as the reader, to call, write, or email me with any comments or concerns regarding any piece of the newsletter. My goal is to make this the best it can be for all, so I'll need assistance in making that a reality.

I wish everyone the best as you start this 2006-2007 school year—it should be an exciting one! I am eager to meet many of you and enhance the wonderful American Indian community in any way possible.

Best Wishes,

Ryan Findley

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

Please send feedback to Ryan at 303-447-5296 or [Ryan.Findley@bvsd.org](mailto:Ryan.Findley@bvsd.org)



BVSD American Indian Parent Committee



**Now Accepting Members**

The American Indian Parent Advisory Committee is now accepting members for the 2006-2007 school year. **The initial Parent Advisory Committee meeting will be held September 29, 2006 at 6:30pm in Conference Room #1** (enter through northwest entrance with large glass windows) **of the Education Center**. We welcome any and all parents to the meeting and committee, as we value the input of all members of the American Indian Community.

The Committee will help direct, implement, and continually improve the way the Title VII American Indian Grant funds are used. Every parent within the district is eligible to sit on the committee; however, you must meet the following time commitments:

- A quarterly Parent Committee Meeting held in the evening at a Boulder Valley School District building.
- Active participation in community-building events organized by the committee.
- Possible help in recruiting families for events, tutoring programs, and any other services that BVSD and the Parent Committee approves.

We *highly* encourage as many parents as possible to sit on the committee, as it is vitally important to continually improve and evaluate the services that Boulder Valley School District offers its American Indian community. Without your input, we are missing invaluable viewpoints that will aid us in improving our programming.

We hope to see you at the September 29th meeting! If you are interested in becoming a member of the committee, have any further questions, or need more information, please contact Ryan Findley at:

303.447.5296  
Ryan.Findley@bvsd.org

Kind Regards,  
Ryan Findley  
Community Liaison



**PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Indian Voices Newsletter**

### Happenings in the American Indian World

*LINKing you to the world around you...*

#### **Denver Indian Family Resource Center**

<http://www.difrc.org/> (providing care and support for Native American children in peril)

#### **Indian Country Today Online**

<http://www.indiancountrytoday.org/> (web-based news site)

#### **Indian Voices Newsletter**

<http://www.kgnu.org/indianvoices/newsletter.html> (information about Native businesses, job and education opportunities, and upcoming events)

#### **Native Peoples Online**

<http://www.nativepeoples.com/index.php> (an online magazine for American Indians)

#### **Navajo Times Online**

<http://www.navajotimes.com/> (must have Firefox browser)

#### **Northern Colorado Indian Powwow Association**

<http://www.fortnet.org/PowWow/index.html> (information on powwows in the Front Range area)

#### **Rocky Mountain Indian Chamber of Commerce**

<http://www.rmicc.org/index.shtml> (provides support for members—Native- and non-native-owned businesses—and consumers)

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### **GOOD TO KNOW**

- ***American Indian Scholars License Plate***

The American Indian Scholars License Plate is a Colorado State issued plate with a medicine wheel design by Francis Sherwood. Colorado residents may secure one for a \$25 donation plus specialty plate and registration fees. To date, sales have reached **1515** plates, but to maintain availability of this plate in Colorado, **3000 must be issued by 2007**. Proceeds go the American Indian Scholars Scholarship fund (Seven \$1000 scholarships awarded in 2005). Additional donations are greatly appreciated.

- ***Indian Voices on KGNU***

Listen to Indian Voices on KGNU Boulder 88.5 FM, KGNU Denver 1390 AM and online at [www.kgnu.org](http://www.kgnu.org) Sundays, 3:00-4:00 p.m. (A BIG thanks to Theresa Halsey for providing this amazing resource!!)



## **PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **Indian Voices Newsletter**

### **Crossroads at the Council Tree Native American Music Festival,**

Saturday, September 2, 2006, 10:30 a.m.- 9:00 p.m. at the Fort Collins Museum, Heritage Courtyard & Library Park, 200 Mathews Street, in Fort Collins, CO. Museum (970)416-2727. All day, free music festival featuring Native American performers, Native Art vendors, food, an Museum Exhibit, and children's' activities. Call Cary Morin, Event Coordinator (970)217-0203. Vendors contact Linda at (970)388-8555.

### **60th Anniversary Navajo Nation Fair Contest Pow Wow,**

Friday-Sunday, September 8-10, 2006, in Window Rock, Arizona. Call the Powwow Committee at (505)327-2920. Vendors can call (928)871-6647 and ask for Wanda Nelson.

### **17th Annual Friendship Pow Wow,**

Saturday, September 9, 2006, from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. at the Denver Art Museum, 100 W. 14th Avenue Pkwy, Denver, CO. Gourd dancing at 10:00 a.m. Grand entry at noon followed by a series of dance competitions and inter-tribal social dances. Everyone is welcome! Vendor booths are available. Provide your own tables, chairs and shade. Set up at 8:00 a.m. Vendor fee is \$30. (\$50 after August 18, 2006) Send check or money order to: Denver Art Museum, Native Arts Department, Attn.: Heather Ahlstrom, 100 W. 14th Avenue Parkway, Denver, CO 80204. Contact Heather at [hahlstrom@denverartmuseum.org](mailto:hahlstrom@denverartmuseum.org) (720)913-0162 or Deb Emhoolah-Sankey at [demhoolah@msn.com](mailto:demhoolah@msn.com) for more information.

### **11th Annual Council Tree Pow Wow and Cultural Festival,**

Saturday-Monday, September 16-18, 2006, in Delta, CO. Call 1-800-874-1741, email, [council-tree@doci.net](mailto:council-tree@doci.net) and Look at [http://www.counciltreepowwow.org/council\\_tree\\_pow\\_wow.htm](http://www.counciltreepowwow.org/council_tree_pow_wow.htm) for more information.

### **Red Rock Scramble**

>>5M Run/3M Walk, October 1, 2006, 10am. Lyons, CO.<<

Benefiting the American Indian Bar Association, the Red Rock Scramble raises funds to help more Native Americans become attorneys. American Indian Law students are found all-too-infrequently at too many law schools, so this event raises money for scholarships for American Indian students at CU and DU who are in their third year of law school and have shown commitment to the Native to serving Indian tribes or native peoples in a legal capacity upon graduation. \$20 fee includes t-shirt (if registered by September 24); \$25 until the morning of the race.

### **National Indian Education Association 37th Annual Convention Is Being Held,**

Thursday-Sunday, October 19-22, 2006, at the William A. Egan Civic & Convention Center 555 W. 5th Avenue and Alaska Center for the Performing Arts, 621 W. 6th Avenue in Anchorage, Alaska. The Host Hotel, is The Hotel Captain Cook. Call 800-843-1950 or log on to <http://www.captaincook.com> The cutoff date is October 2, 2006. Reference the National Indian Education Association (NIEA) to receive the NIEA Convention rates. Host hotel rates are \$120 per night. Look at <http://www.niea.org> for complete information.

If you know of an upcoming event that you would like to share with the BVSD American Indian Community, please contact Ryan Findley at [Ryan.Findley@bvsd.org](mailto:Ryan.Findley@bvsd.org) or at 303.447.5296.



### **Rocky Mountain Indian Chamber of Commerce Colorado Indian Education Foundation Scholarship**

Applications must be postmarked by Oct 6, 2006. This program is open to American Indian students who are residents of the State of Colorado and who will be or who are attending an accredited college, university or trade school in the state of Colorado. You can receive an application by calling Kim at (303) 629-0102, sending her an email at [info@rmicc.org](mailto:info@rmicc.org), or looking on the Rocky Mountain Indian Chamber's website at <http://www.rmicc.org>.

### **Computer Classes at the Denver Indian Center**

The Native Workforce at the Denver Indian Center offers free classes for adults (18+) "Computer Essentials Class". Learn Microsoft Office Essentials. Four weeks *paid* training. Classes begin September 25th and conclude October 20th, 2006; or begin November 13th and conclude December 8th, 2006. By completing the class, you can earn up to \$300! 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](http://www.denverindiancenter.org) for more information. Located at 4407 Morrison Road, in Denver, CO.

### **Food Bank**

"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**

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

**Cherokee Language and Culture Classes**, First and Third Thursdays of each month from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Fleming Law School Building on the CU-Boulder Campus in the Kelly room, on the second floor in room 294. Look at the Denver Indian Center website at <http://www.denverindiancenter.org> for more information and directions. Email Janet Lott at [jerryjanetlott@aol.com](mailto:jerryjanetlott@aol.com)

**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!