STORYTELLER

ALBUQUERQUE PUBLIC SCHOOLS Indian Education Newsletter August, 2022

Mission

By working together with schools, parents, and communities, APS Indian Education Department develops enhanced and supportive Indigenous educational opportunities for American Indian/ Alaska Native students by increasing knowledge of Native values through teaching language and cultural differences.

Students visit Southern New Mexico

On July 29, 2022 John Williams and Charlene Smiley chaperoned seven high school students to visit three places in Southern, New Mexico. The students went to Mimbres Culture Site where they spent the morning. Then they went to the Gila Cliff Dwellings in the afternoon. They then traveled to Silver City where they spent the night in a hotel.

The next morning, they went to visit Chirachua Apache Land in the morning and then went to Alamogordo to visit White Sands in the afternoon. The students chose the sites they wanted to visit and made all the arrangements themselves. It was a great job of researching and coordinating this field trip. Everyone had a wonderful time exploring these amazing sites!

Summer 2022 Cultural Enrichment Program

This past summer, Indian Education had a Summer Enrichment Program in June at Valley High School.

The Summer Enrichment Program had Indigenous Foods, Robotics, Pottery, Zuni, Navajo Language and Crafts classes. We also had credit courses in both Navajo and Navajo Government as well as Gradpoint Credit Recovery for students to make up High School Credits. Eighty-five students ranging from kindergarten to 12th grade participated

Pottery items waiting to be polished by students.

Students enrolled in the program were able to reconnect with parts of their culture, through various activities from learning how to cook traditional foods to creating pieces of artwork. Also, for part of the program, students had the option in enrolling in the robotics class. In this class, students were able to design their own idea of a robot and showed their creation at the end of program potluck. Along with the hands-on activities, students also were able to learn the heritage languages of Navajo and Zuni.

Ms. Padillas Zuni language class ceating artwork for 2023 calendar.

Ms. Smiley's weaving class.

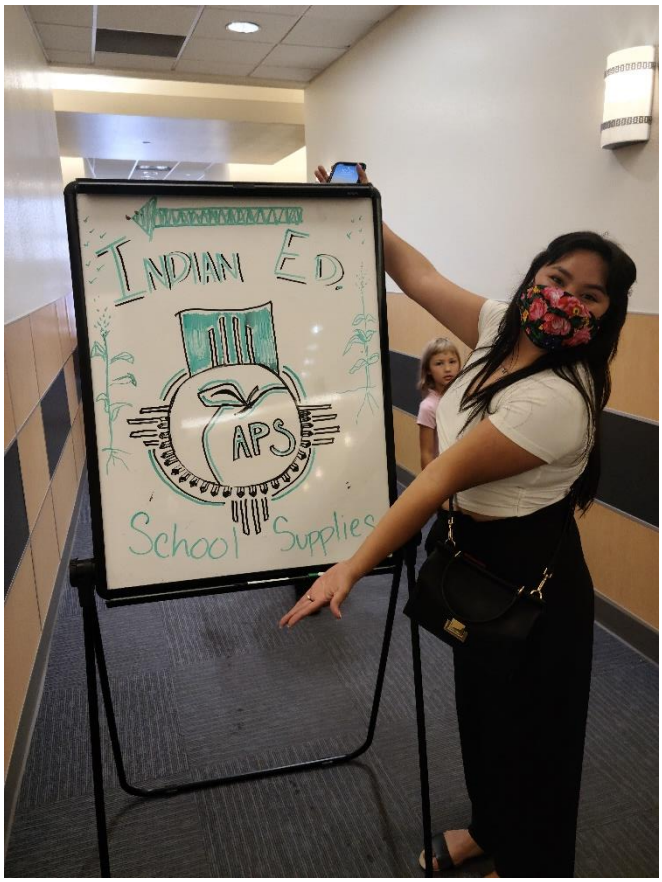
Diné Language and Cultural Immersive

In July, students were bused from Apache Elementary School near Manzano High School to the Center for Intercultural Care, LLC in Tijeras, New Mexico where students participated in a variety of Land-based Diné language and culture activities.

Summer 2023, Indian Education plans to have a Cultural Enrichment program at Sandia High School, Diné Language Immersives in Tijeras, New Mexico, and much more. Please contact the Indian Education office at (505) 884-6392 for more information on summer programs in Indian Education.

Back to School Supply Distribution

Every summer, the Indian Education Department helps support Native American families by purchasing and distributing school supplies for APS students. This year, students and staff came together on August 6, 2022 to distribute approximately 900 school supplies kits. Families came to the APS City Center where items were distributed.



McKenzie Johnson, Student volunteer

Diné Teacher Land-Based Professional Development

On August 8 and 9, 2022 Navajo language teachers attended a "Culture Care & Knowledge Learning for Educators" Workshop. This event was sponsored by the Center for Intercultural Care, LLC. It was held in Tijeras, New Mexico. From left to right:

Charlene Smiley
Jerry Gee
Vinton Werito
Mildred Chaquito
Lorenzo Jim
Shannon Johnson
Phil Farson
Yona (dog)