STORYTELLER

ALBUQUERQUE PUBLIC SCHOOLS Indian Education Newsletter February 2022

Mission

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

Indigenous Life Celebration Success

On Saturday, November 13, 2021, students from several high schools came together and coordinated a Indigenous Life Celebration at the APS Berna Facio Complex. It began with a prayer walk and then had several performers and speakers in the main auditorium. There were also workshops throughout the morning in the break out rooms which included:

Taya Perales and Zora Tolino-Minefee, 12th graders, Volcano Vista High School

- Leadership Development
- Revitalizing Language and Culture
- Native Entrepreneurship Environmental Issues
- Urban Youth Panel Discussion
- Food Sovereignty
- Health and Wellness
- Cultural Awareness Activities for the Kids
- Documentary *"However Wide the Sky Places of Power"*

Lunch was provided by the Duke City Gladiators.

Leroy "Buster" Silva Keynote Speaker

To see more photos you can click on https://photos.app.goo.gl/dZrKA7iD7fnvGZ1o6

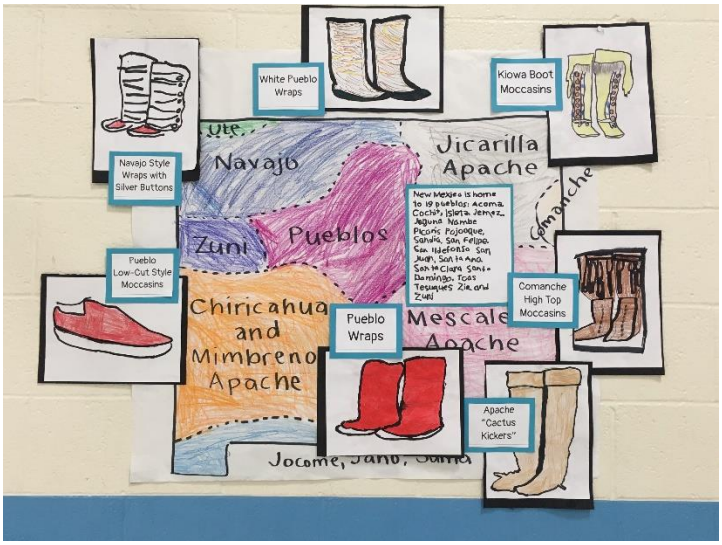
Dancer – Myka Tafoya, 11th grade Del Norte High School

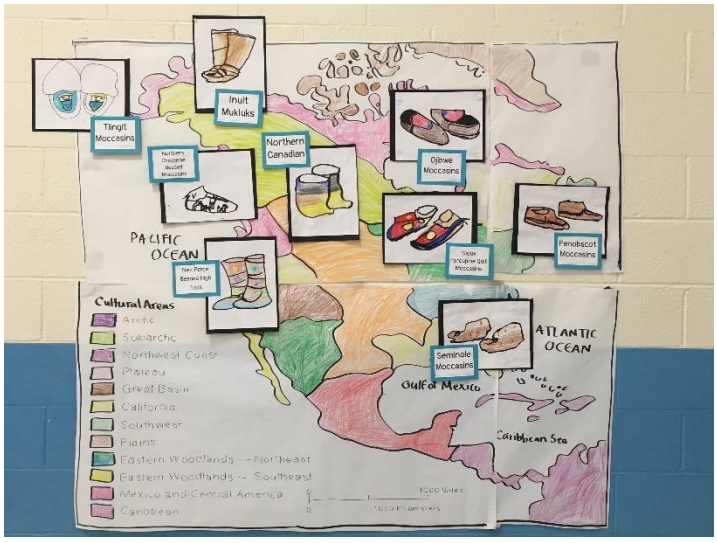
Pueblo Buffalo Dancers

Governor Bent ES's 5th Annual Rock Your Mocs Celebration Takes a Hybrid Approach

For the past five years, students, staff and families at Governor Bent Elementary have come together the week of November 15th to honor and celebrate Native American cultures in the spirit of Rock Your Mocs. The annual celebration began in 2017 with a Powwow presentation by Little Bear Necklace, featuring Governor Bent students Mylan and Darrian Archuleta. Over the next two years, the celebration grew to include more students and family members, including student mentors from Del Norte High School.

In November 2020, GBES students and staff rose to the challenge of remote learning by creating a Rock Your Mocs website, which was shared with families and staff. This school year, our 5th Annual Rock Your Mocs Celebration took a hybrid approach. This year's website features video presentations by student mentors from the DNHS Native American JAG Program including a welcome address, Tribal recognition and several read-alouds for the students at Governor Bent to view during RYM week. GBES students also celebrated at school through Music, Art, and PE lessons, a fifth-grade art exhibit, and a fourth-grade poetry project. Turquoise awareness ribbons were provided for all students and staff. The website, which also features videos and photographs from previous Rock Your Mocs Celebrations, will remain available throughout the school year for your enjoyment and appreciation.





North American and New Mexico Moccasins Maps created by Mrs. Dukart's 5th Grade Social Studies Classes

The students and staff of Governor Bent Elementary would like to thank the students of the DNHS JAG (Jobs for America's Graduates) Program for their inspiring presentations, and their Program Director, Mr. Timothy Garro for his leadership and guidance with the project.

Cari Kerkhoff (she/her)
Governor Bent ES Indian Ed. Resource Teacher
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Engaging students at Montezuma Elementary!

Keshhi/ Hello my name is Kevin Othole and this is my sixth year as an elementary resource teacher with APS Indian Education Department (IED) at Montezuma Elementary. I would like to acknowledge some of the students of my fifth grade math and reading class. Aaliyah, Arianna, Josie and Latoya have been a part of IED classes since kindergarten, my first year with IED, and it has been great to see their community grow throughout the years. They welcome new classmates and help them become comfortable in our classroom community in a positive way that reflects our Native American values. Continued success to all seven of the fifth graders moving on to middle school.

In math, students worked on activities and engaged in game based learning to develop their math skills in the areas of number structure, number words and numerals, place value, adding/subtracting, multiplication and division. AddVantage math games included Treasure Hunt for skip counting, adding and subtracting and dice games like FARKEL to add, subtract and multiply larger numbers. Younger students played various spinner games and used manipulatives to build numbers, add and subtract. Students also used their beading designs to solve the real world problems of how many beads did they use all together? How many beads of each color? Students were able to apply the various place value strategies for addition/ subtraction and multiplication.

Our professional development with the WIDA consortium this year helped us focus on nonfiction writing for ELA. My students have experienced writing a descriptive and a classifying report. Those reports were focused on strange plants, grasslands, blue whales, coral reefs, and undersea food webs. Each writing opportunity also gave students a chance to add multimedia in their response by sharing their writing on the Seesaw App. This winter, we will complete a part to whole and a comparative writing activity before we focus on narrative writing and fiction.

For our Indian Ed. cultural days, we have been focusing on beading with glass beads for grades 3-5 and pony beads for grades K-2. Our focus has been on our native values of mastery and independence. The younger students work with pony beads to work on fine motor skills and develop patience. Older students work with glass beads to build their stamina towards working for longer periods independently. Coming up this winter and spring we will begin working with clay to build pottery and small sculptures.

E'lahkwa/Thank you to all the APS Indian Education families that allow us to continue to work with our Native American students and for keeping them safe and engaged this school year.

Kevin Othole
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Stories vs. Information at Janet Kahn

Hello families! Students are experiencing big changes as we transition from reading and retelling stories of fantasy in Kindergarten and First grade class, to writing reports about information we read in Third, Fourth and Fifth grade class. Second grade is moving from focusing on short vowel phonics to mathematics. Our focus is experiencing and understanding different communication styles within the English language, vocabulary used in story telling with younger students versus academic vernacular applied to convey information among older elementary students. Don't Need Friends is a sad story we read with a happy ending about belonging together. Waiting Alligators has information that we are learning to categorize and explain. Both Storytelling and Informative styles of communication will culminate with Spider Stories from five various tribes and information about these five differing tribes; both styles to be analyzed. Mathematics is also a part of our class, from everyday time-telling, money-counting, to numerical symbols, and concrete-to-abstract basic calculations. We are counting on everyone staying safe as well as being considerate of everyone else who are also trying to stay safe. In this way all our children can continue to learn and be their best.

Juanita Harjo
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Winter Stories Program

This year the Native American winter Stories was on December 2nd at the Albuquerque High School Performing Arts Center. It was a hybrid event with 200 people attending in person. The event was interactive with the audience. It included storytelling, a string game demonstration, music by students, and games and prizes.

You can see the video at
https://youtu.be/HvXNh0kcWk8