

Back to School Newsletter 2016-2017

Greetings!

On behalf of the Auburn School District's Native Education Program staff, we would like to extend wishes that all our families are excited that school is back in session and that students and families are healthy, happy, and enjoying a great new school year!

Did anyone else feel like last school year was that fastest year ever? There might be no way to slow down time, but we can do our best to make the most of every moment!

Since we can't control the clock, I thought, learning to be organized, being thankful for all the blessings, and setting goals then striving to meet them are all things that can help keep life fresh, challenging and manageable. Let's see how this goes!

This newsletter highlights some events, tips and things to get us started for this school year.

I will upload applications and individual flyers to the webpage. See also the College and Career Readiness Fall Newsletter! *(on webpage)*

Here's to a great new school year!

Sincerely, Robin Pratt, ASD Native Program Coordinator

September 26, 2016

How to Stay Informed of Native Program Events

The Native program staff has a very full schedule and we are constantly on the go. Slowing down to write is sometimes a luxury. To stay informed of program events, here are a couple ways to always know what is going on:

- If you do Facebook, "like" our page, ASD Native American Education Program
- Check the program's web page periodically by going to the ASD main page, click on departments, then Native American
<http://auburnsd.schoolwires.net/Page/461>
- Have a current email in Skyward (let the office know) and you'll receive periodic notices on events
- Enroll in REMIND. I started this last year, but I didn't use it too much. Let's try again! ☺ Send @msrpr to 81010 to sign in
- Reach out to Program Staff! Mr. Wilson at Olympic MS, Ms. Minus at Chinook, Ms. Mizuki at AHS, and R. Pratt 253 931-4880 , ext 2125 for anything else!

MONTHLY MEETINGS

The first meeting is:

OCTOBER 13TH, 2016

5:00 pm – 6:30pm

Olympic Middle School

Monthly meetings are for parents, guardians, community members, and ASD staff that work with Native students, as well as high school students!

Parent meetings are the cornerstone of the program. Parent participation is a huge determining factor in what the program focuses on. In fact, two of our grants require parent participation, and the third grant encourages it. District staff are an important voice, too, so please consider attending also!

For our Title VII (*soon to be recognized as Title VI*) grant, the parent committee added in the following two grant objectives:

Integration of Indian Specific Content into Curriculum

- Social Studies teachers in Auburn have an opportunity to be trained for free by the state in the STI curriculum on Oct 4th.
- Increase Knowledge of Cultural Identity and Awareness

...while continuing with the following objectives:

- Increase student attendance rate
- Increase academic achievement
- Increase Parent/Family Participation

We hope YOU will join us for some of our meetings! We are always grateful with parent participation. We need new parent leaders, too, to help establish by laws and meet goals. We also need district staff to take part in this committee.

874 Native American Parent, Guardian, Community and Staff Meetings and Events for 2016-2017

Date and Time	Location	Agenda Items	Event Description
October 13 5:00 - 6:30 pm	Olympic MS Rm 310	Overview of goals for the year	Meeting
October 19 5:00 – 6:30 pm	Auburn High School, Rm 336	How to choose a college, how to apply, how to pay and more	College Readiness Workshop
November 10 4:00 – 7:00 pm	Auburn High School Commons	Native American storytelling, cultural activities, cultural performance, dinner and more!	Family Culture Night
December 7 5:30 – 7:30 pm	Olympic Middle School Cafeteria	Cultural performance, dinner and more!	Coast Salish Dance Group hosts a dinner for families
January 12 4:00 – 5:00 pm	Auburn High School Rm 336	Impact Aid policy review and grant app; data on HS Students' academic success; field trip planning MS/HS	Meeting
Tbd: Jan/Feb	Performing Arts Center	Empowerment & leadership	Family Night
February 9 5:00 – 6:30 pm	Olympic Middle School Rm 310	Culture Night with holiday theme; 874 Impact Aid update; student focus	Meeting and culture
March 9 5:00 – 6:00 pm	Chinook Elementary Rm 604	Update on remainder of year activities; Title VII Preliminary grant application, input for 2016-2017	Meeting
April 20 5:00 – 7:00 pm	Auburn Riverside HS Commons	Achievement dashboard Native American Culture Night	Meeting and Culture Night
May 11 5:00 – 6:30 pm	Olympic MS Rm 310	Public hearing for Title VII grant	Meeting
June 7 5:30 – 8:00 pm	Commons for dinner Performing Arts Center for Ceremony	Honoring Our Native American Graduates Ceremony ASD Native American students in grades 5, 8 and HS graduates will be celebrated for their achievements	

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

There would be no program without our students!!!
We are so proud of how well our students are doing in Auburn.
In this Newsletter, I'd like to offer a shout out to all our students
in fall sports.

At Auburn High, we have a record number of students in sports!
It reminds me of the old days, before video games ☺

Way to go, Freshmen: Freedom Bill, Marshall Nogueira, AJ
Smiskin, Dale Williams, Santana Woodard, Jared WhiteEagle
Brooks James, Senior, continues leading the way in football!

Ethan McGinley is in Boys Cross Country, and Troy Presuhn in
Tennis.

If you think of a group of students that
should be highlighted, please email:
rpratt@auburn.wednet.edu.

We can recognize things like Honor Roll and
Great Attendance, and...

Girls volleyball:
Tayla LaClair is in
Varsity.
That is quite an
achievement!

MIGRANT PROGRAM - BENEFITS



Eligible Students: Students that have participated in agricultural work (*gathering berries for example*), digging clams or fishing. To be eligible, students must have “moved” (*traveled*) and spent at least one night away from home. Many students have qualified in the past and have benefited.

Benefits:

Students that qualify can enroll in an independent study course, PASS. PASS has over 40 courses available. This is a way that high school students can **retrieve credit** after failing a class, working at their own pace independently, while supported by program staff. Qualified students also may receive **free breakfast and lunch**, which can really help a family out!

If you think your child can qualify, please connect with either Ms. Mizuki (253) 931-4880 ext 336 lmizuki@auburn.wednet.edu for Auburn High or Robin Pratt, same number, ext 2125 or rpratt@auburn.wednet.edu for any other Auburn School, as soon as possible.

ON THE HORIZON

Muckleshoot Language!

Plans have become action. Soon (*hopefully by 2nd semester*) Muckleshoot Language will be piloted in at least two of our Auburn schools for 8th- 12th grade students. Olympic Middle School will have a Muckleshoot language class and Auburn High will offer one or two classes (*that will eventually be open to students of other ASD high schools*). There will also be an additional after school program for elementary students to learn, at Chinook Elementary.

This is such a timely development. Today’s 8th graders and students thereafter will be required to have 2 years of World Language in order to graduate.

Language revitalization is such an important aspect of our Native communities. Hands are raised to Muckleshoot for taking this to task. It will be a great day when we can hear many of our young ones speaking the original language of this area.

STRIVE FOR FIVE

ALL DAY, EVERY DAY

Great attendance is a major factor in how well students do in school. Missing more than 10 days in a school year is considered chronic. Tardies have an impact, too. When kids are continuously late, they miss important instruction, and often in the same subject.

The Native Ed program is here to support you

If there is something preventing your student from arriving to school on time every day, or in attending classes, please reach out and let’s see what we can do to be of support. Every family has unique circumstances, so what works for one student may not work for another. Please be sure to call in and excuse your child so they can turn in late work.

Incentives

This year, the parent committee will help establish a program that will recognize students with great attendance and also those that have improved attendance.

After School Culture Classes

Not finalized yet, but this is what we're hoping for:

Where	When	What	Who
Chinook Elementary	Mondays, 3:40 – 4:40	Coastal Dance Group	(Ms. Thompson) & elementary students
Chinook Elementary	Wednesdays, 3:40 – 4:40	Muckleshoot Language	Muckleshoot Language Staff
Olympic Middle School	Mondays or Wednesdays 2:30 – 4:30	Dance, language, culture	(Ms. Pratt, Ms. Broussard) & MS and HS students

OCTOBER 4TH, 2016

5:00–7:30 pm

Auburn High School Commons “Launch Your Future Now”

This event is for middle school families to learn what programs and requirements will be available when their child gets to high school.

Reaching Out Fair

Native American Youth Leadership Academy

We are accepting applications for this year's group of Native Leaders. Does your child demonstrate leadership ability? Would you like to see their ability nurtured? Then consider applying for NAYLA!

More than a dozen leaders last year attended the four sessions and hope to have another chance to be involved!

Have you signed your child's syllabus? In middle school and high school, many teachers require this as part of a student's grade!

Auburn School District is excited to collaborate again with Western Washington Consortium's NAYLA program this school year!

8th-12th Grade

Students that apply need to plan to attend all four sessions (10/13, 12/8, 2/9, and April (date still to be determined), and assist with Native program events when possible.

Volunteers

Do you have time or a skill that you would be willing to donate to our program?

We can always use assistance with tutoring in our after school homework program on Wednesdays, help with our culture program, field trips and other activities and events.

Any bit of time is appreciated, whether you can commit to an ongoing activity, or one time deal.

Last year, we were so thankful for the time former program student, **Stephanie Masterman, class of 2014**, volunteered!

Volunteers do need to submit a background check at their child's school (or where the program is taking place.) Please contact us if you are willing to volunteer! Anything is helpful!

Thank you!!!

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