



PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TITLE VII / INDIAN EDUCATION ACT PROJECT
PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EDUCATOR AND EMPLOYER

Talking Circle

5210 N Kerby Ave Portland, OR 97217 / Phone: 503.916.6499, Fax: 503.916.2728
www.indianed.pps.net

October 2011

ATTENDANCE

Although our American Indian & Alaska Native students continue to make gains in reading and math, there are still some areas where our students are not performing at the rate of their non-Indian peers. One of these areas is attendance. Last year, PPS's milestones' target for attendance was 92.0. Our AI/AN elementary students met this rate at 92.5%, but our middle school students had a rate of 90.3%. Research shows that good attendance is critical to academic success. Students who miss 5 days or more in any given year are already at risk of not graduating high school. Let's strive to increase our attendance rates in elementary, middle, and high school. If there are supports you and your family need to improve attendance please contact the Indian Education office. We may be able to help, or connect you with programs that can!

ABC'S OF BEING A GOOD STUDENT

Continued from article in September's issue

N-News. Pay attention to what's going on in the world around you. Read a daily news article. You'll be amazed at how many daily events tie in with class discussions.

O- Opportunities. Recognize class projects and/or assignments as opportunities to add to your knowledge and experience something new. You may find something that you really enjoy and will make a good career choice.

P – Positive. Be a positive thinker. You can accomplish a lot if you believe in yourself.

Q – Quality. The quality of your work says a lot about you. Always turn in your best work. It also establishes good habits that will serve you well in your career.

R- Rest. Remember that adequate rest is needed to take full advantage of your classes. Staying up late to cram for a test usually doesn't result in a higher grade.

S- Study. Study a little each day on each course. When exam time rolls around, you won't be trying to catch up.

T – Time. Manage your time responsibly. Make sure you allot enough for each class and each project or assignment.

U – Unusual. Don't settle for always doing the usual thing. Use your creative abilities to try new things. Take new classes and explore new topics.

V- Valiant. Make a valiant effort to do your best in your classes. You might not be successful at all subjects but at least you will know you tried.

W – Want. Always want to learn and to learn more about the subjects you study. A subject that may seem boring on the surface may be very interesting as you get more details.

X- X'ing. When taking multiple choice tests and x'ing your answer, be sure to read the question and all the possible answers completely. Don't treat multiple choice tests as multiple guess tests.

Y – Youthful. Establishing an interest in various subjects will keep you young throughout your life. Researchers have found that common among those who enjoy life the most is an ongoing interest in learning new things.

Z – Zeal. Approach all you do with zeal—a passion for learning and accomplishing as much as possible in your life.

~ Karen Kitchen (Osage), Project Manager ~

~ Christine Bruno (Comanche), Community Agent ~ Alex Christopher (Eastern Band Cherokee) ~

~Sunshine Guzman (Shoshone-Bannock), Tutor ~ Linda Hart (Turtle Mt. Chippewa), Tutor ~

~Pam Smith, Project Secretary ~



GIFTS FROM MY ANCESTORS

Sept. 26 through Oct. 20, 2011

Location: Buckley Center Gallery on the University of Portland campus, 5000 N. Willamette Blvd.

Contact: Department of Performing & Fine Arts, 503.943.7228 or pfa@up.edu

Artist Lillian Pitt is featured in an exhibit called "Gifts From My Ancestors". The exhibit is free and open to the public. The exhibit features masks, sculptures, and prints that use the Asian techniques of raku and anagama and are comprised of bronze, precious metals, wood, glass, shell, leather, and feathers. Pitt's ancestors are from Northwest areas that include Warm Springs, Wasco and Yakima. "**Everything I do,**" says Pitt, "**is directly related to honoring my ancestors and giving voice to the people, the environment and the animals.**" She notes that her early artistic vision grew from the discovery of a petroglyph of female chief Tsagaglal, which was created by indigenous tribes along the Columbia River. For Pitt, Tsagaglal is a symbol for female wisdom, peace, and prosperity. "**When I found out who I was and what she (Tsagaglal) meant to my great grandmother, it was a life-changing experience,**" says Pitt. "**It gave me a sense of power that no one could take away.**" Gallery hours are Monday to Friday, 8:30 AM to 8 PM and Saturday 8:30 AM to 4 PM.

NARA NORTHWEST PRESENTS THE 2nd ANNUAL SPIRIT OF GIVING CONFERENCE

Oct. 30, 2011– Nov. 2, 2011

Location: Grand Ballroom, Red Lion on the River, Jantzen Beach, 909 Hayden Island Drive

Info: www.naranorthwest.org

This year the theme is "**Celebrating Partnerships in Culture and Integrated Health Care**" In the Spirit of Giving, there are no registration fees for this conference, but all attendees need to register. Registration includes: conference materials, gift bag, continental breakfast each day, 2 lunches, 1 dinner, cultural activities, and a free raffle with chance to win a laptop. This is a great opportunity for addictions counselors, mental health therapists, health and social service providers, program managers, government officials, and anyone interested in culture and integrated health services. NARA's philosophy is based on the belief that our elders, children, youth and adults deserve health care which is coordinated and effective to address physical, cultural, emotional and spiritual balance and wellness. All NARA's services are woven together or "integrated" like a basket to serve the whole individual, the whole family and in turn the whole community.

The conference kicks off on **Sunday, October 30th** with a **MINI POWWOW AND BOO BASH**. This Halloween event will feature games & treats for the kids, a Tiny Tots Special, and a costume contest for toddlers, kids, teens & adults. The Boo Bash is from 1 PM – 5 PM, and the Grand Entry for the Mini Powwow will be at 6 PM.

NARA YOUTH NIGHT

Thursday Evenings, Dinner at 5:30 PM, Activities: 6:00 -8:30 PM

Location: 1776 SE Madison

Contact: Shane Lopez-Johnston, NARA 503.953.6071, slopez@naranorthwest.org or Solomon Trimble, 503.953.6496, stribble@naranorthwest.org All youth ages 9 - 21 are invited. Have fun! Meet other Native youth in the Portland Metro. Participate in activities that are recreational, cultural, spiritual, and educational.

6TH ANNUAL NORTHWEST INDIAN STORYTELLERS ASSOCIATION (NISA) STORYTELLING FESTIVAL

October 13-16, 2011

Location: NASCC (PSU), 710 SW Jackson

Contact: Fox Blackhorn-Delph, 503.775.4014, fox@wisdomoftheelders.org.

The festival will feature emerging storyteller workshops during the day and storytelling at night. Evening events are open to the public for a \$5 - \$20 donation. Registration for the emerging storyteller's workshops is \$30 and includes five meals.

To register for the emerging storyteller workshops, or for more information on the NISA Festival, visit our website wisdomoftheelders.org

PPS Title VII Indian Education will provide registration for 12 middle & high school students to attend a special storytelling workshop designed for youth. (need date & time here) Reserve your slot by calling 503.916-6499.

PARENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Saturday, October 22, 2011, 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Location: Parkrose H.S., 12003 NE Shaver St.

Contact: Jenny Miller, Lead Coordinator, 503.347.4697, jenni789and1@comcast.net

Attend a wide range of workshops that will provide you with the tools and inspiration needed to engage in your children's education. Help support your student, your school and your district. Workshop topics include: *Navigating the School System, College Prep, The Adolescent Brain, Helping Your Child Succeed, Advocating For Your Child* and more. Continental breakfast & lunch, childcare, community resource information--all for free! Register online: cppsportland.org/plc/

SAFE HOME PARENTING GROUP

Every Thursday, 4pm - 6pm

Location: NAYA Family Center, 5135 NE Columbia Blvd.

Contact: Nora Farwell, Parent Involvement Advocate, 503.288.8177 x234, noraf@nayapdx.org

Join us for an interactive and informative drop-in parenting group designed especially for young and first-time parents. Learn fun games to do with your children that will create a positive learning environment. We will discuss baby and child development and ways to celebrate these important milestones. You will have an opportunity to learn hands-on parenting skills, & share what works BEST FOR YOU!



STORIES OF PLACE CELEBRATION

November 4, 2011

Atkinson School Assembly will be held from **1:45 – 2:45 PM**. Snacks, tours, music, and games will be available from **3 – 6 PM** in the outdoor classroom and in the school gardens. **All Summer ACE students and their families are cordially invited to participate in the festivities.**

SEARCH AND RESCUE

Saving lives through Training, Education, and Service

Wednesday evenings

Location: Multnomah County Sheriff's Office, 12240 NE Glisan St., Portland, OR 97230

Contact: info@mcsosaer.com or online at www.mcsosar.com

Search and Rescue involves finding lost hikers, hunters, climbers, skiers, children, Alzheimer's dementia patients, and deceased subjects; searching for evidence at crime scenes; assisting with SWAT training scenarios and OLCC missions; and helping conduct evacuations during natural disasters such as windstorms, floods, etc. Multnomah County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue is looking for highly dedicated volunteers that will be **at least 14 years old by June 1, 2012**. You are invited to come and learn about this exciting opportunity. In this free 9 month training program, students will study Rescue Techniques, Survival, Navigation, Wilderness Safety, and First Aid. Upon completion, students should be able to earn their Oregon State Search & Rescue certification.

STRENGTHENING THE CIRCLE

Special Ed Workshop for Families

Wed, October 26, 6:30 – 8:30 PM

Location: Indian Education Office, at Jefferson HS, 5210 N. Kerby.

Contact: PPS Indian Education Office, 503-916-6499

Parents, guardians, and teachers are cordially invited to attend this workshop on how to support our Native students with learning challenges. A light meal and all materials will be provided.

- Individualized Education Plans (IEPs), the IDEA
- Writing effective goals & objectives
- Accommodations and Modifications
- Communication with school staff
- Community resources

There are **limited child care stipends** available on a first-come-first-served basis. Please call in advance to request. This workshop is made possible through the support of Oregon R.I.S.E. Center and PPS Title VII Indian Education Project. Enter through the Kerby Street entrance.

FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP

Wed, October 12, 2011, 6 – 8:30 PM

Location: Cafeteria, Level A, Indian Education Office, at Jefferson HS, 5210 N. Kerby.

Contact: PPS Indian Education Office, 503-916-6499

Please plan to attend PPS Indian Education's annual financial aid workshop. Representatives from the NELA Center will unpack the FAFSA, and staff from PSU, NAYA, Siletz, and Indian Education will provide valuable information on financial aid, scholarships, tribal opportunities and more. A light meal will be provided. Enter through the Kerby Street entrance.

HEALING FEATHERS FUN WALK

Mind, Body, Spirit, & Community

Tue. October 11, 2011, 11 AM – 2 PM

Location: NASCC (PSU), 710 SW Jackson, Portland, 97201

Contact: Dean Azule, 503.725-5348, azuled@pdx.edu

Come join Healing Feathers and the Native American Student & Community Center (NASCC) in our annual fall fun walk. We will meet at the NASCC, at 11 AM, and proceed together along our walking path. A healthy lunch will be available at \$5 a plate. Proceeds from the lunch will be used to provide food baskets for Native American families in our community during the holiday season.

COLLEGE HORIZONS

College Horizons is a summer pre-college workshop for **10th & 11th** grade high school students. During the week long intensive "crash course" in preparing the best college application, students get to work one-on-one with 45 admissions officers and expert college counselors to:

- Develop and research a list of schools to apply to;
- Write a memorable college essay;
- Complete the Common Application;
- Receive test-taking strategies (on the ACT./SAT);
- Explore financial aid/scholarship opportunities.

Dates & Locations:

June 10 -15: Kenyon College (Gambier, OH)

June 24 – 29: University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, PA)

Please take advantage of this amazing opportunity to receive expert help in applying to college!

GRATITUDE

PPS Indian Education thanks the following people for their donation of time to assist our program at the Back to School Gathering:

Tamara Brown, Sean Snook, Austin Macy, Toni Macy, Lauren Swan-Solomon, and Wren Christopher.

"Do you understand how amazing it is to hear that from an adult? Do you know how amazing it is to hear that from anybody? It's one of the simplest sentences in the world, just four words, but they're the four hugest words in the world when they're put together: **You can do it.**"

Sherman Alexie, [The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian](#)



INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF PSU OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, October 6, 2011 from 4 – 6 PM

Location: NASCC (PSU), 710 SW Jackson, Portland, 97201
This is an informal gathering for new and returning faculty, staff, and students of Native Alaskan, Native American, and Pacific Islander heritage to meet and get to know each other. Come and enjoy free food and music; discover the different student groups and services that support the Indigenous community at PSU.

NW CHILDREN'S THEATER PRESENTS

Roald Dahl's Willie Wonka & the Chocolate Factory

First week in December, 7PM

Location: 1819 NW Everett St, Portland

Contact: PPS Indian Education Office, 503-916-6499

Recommended for grades 1 & up. It's a sticky-sweet confection of 'Pure Imagination'! Roald Dahl's timeless story of the world-famous candy man and his quest to find an heir comes to life in this musical adaptation, with classic songs from the Oscar-nominated family film. Contact the project office at 503-916-6499 to reserve tickets for your family.

COLLEGE NIGHT IN OREGON

Monday, Nov. 14, 2011

High school students get answers to their questions about college admissions, the financial aid process and searching for scholarships. Sessions are held simultaneously at several sites across the state. For locations and details, check their website at www.collegenightor.org.

COLLEGE GOAL OREGON

January 7, 14, 21, & 28, 2012

Four free, one-day events at more than 20 sites statewide to help students fill out their FAFSA and learn about available funding. For locations and details go to www.CollegeGoalOregon.gov

The **OSAC 2012-2013 SCHOLARSHIP GUIDE** for Oregon students is available at <http://oregonstudentaid.gov/resources-publications-info.aspx>. Remember the Oregon Scholarship Application online has an **Early Bird** deadline of February 16, 2012 and a **final deadline** of March 1, 2012.

MOCCASIN KEY CHAIN WORKSHOP

Tue., Nov. 8, 6 – 8 PM or Tue., Nov. 15, 6 – 8 PM

Location: Indian Education office at Jefferson HS, 5210 N. Kerby
Contact: PPS Indian Education Office, 503-916-6499
Learn how to make a little moccasin key chain in this fun two-hour workshop. Each session is limited to 15 participants, grades 2 and up. Parents are welcome and encouraged to participate. There is no cost, and all materials are provided!

CHEROKEE STICKBALL PRESENTATION

Saturday, October 1, 2011, 10 AM – 2 PM

Location: Life Change Christian Center, Betty Dorsey Hall, 3635 N. Williams Ave, Portland, OR 97227

Contact Kat Pruitt, 503.378.0812.

Stickball, often referred to as Little Brother of War, has been played for centuries. Played as an alternative to war with other tribal groups, a stickball game was played to settle disputes.

Played with racquet type ball sticks and a small leather ball, the object of the game was to control the ball and score points by throwing the ball through poles set up similar to football goal posts. A second style of game, and most frequently played in Oklahoma, is to hit a centered pole with a wooden fish icon fastened at the top.

Only men played in ancient times. There was ceremonial procedure that was strictly followed before and after the games. Leaders, medicine men, players and women participated in these events and a late night dance was held before the game.

Stickball is still played today. Men and women participate in recreational games as well as ceremonial games. Ceremonial grounds that continue to practice religious traditions play the game as a part of customary rituals. Recreational games of stickball can be found in communities, schools and tribal events. Men and women play co-ed style; men use ball sticks and the women use their hands.

Stickball sticks are made of hickory and are one piece of wood molded, bent and tied to form the racquet end. Leather lacings or thongs are woven as the pocket to hold the ball.

http://www.cherokeeheritage.org/cherokeeheritage/cherokee_games.html

A presenter from the Cherokee Nation will talk about the fundamentals of the game, explain the rules, and show each of you how to play. All are welcome! **Potluck: A-L Main Course; M-Z Side dish or dessert.**

JEFFERSON HS MULTI-CULTURAL FILM FESTIVAL

Tue., Oct. 11, 2011, 5PM

Location: North Portland Neighborhood Library 2nd Floor Conference Room 512 North Killingsworth St Portland, Oregon 97217
Contact: J.W. Doncon, 503.916.5180 ext 78526, JHSAnnualMulticulturalFilmFestival@gmx.com

Skyn Deep is a film that initiates discussion to begin our 11th Annual Multicultural Film Festival season's theme: THE DYNAMICS of IDENTITY. Skillful facilitation of the evening is conducted by Mr. Jorge Espinosa - co-author and co-director of **Skyn Deep**. Join our viewing and discussion about identity as we deconstruct elements of racial discrimination and prejudice. Audience members gain new insights, perspectives and communication skills for improving racial justice in our community. It is family friendly and FREE.



BIG BROTHERS, BIG SISTERS

Sports Buddies Program

Contact: Andrea Robideau, Community Relations and Native American Outreach Specialist, 1.866.882.6696, andrea.robideau@bbbsnorthwest.org

Big Brothers Big Sisters has a program called **Sports Buddies** that makes it easy and fun for men and women to mentor boys or girls in our community through something they love – sports. As a Sports buddy you are matched with a great kid to spend time watching or playing a sport together each month. Sample activities include: Portland Timbers Soccer, Nike Sports Camp, Rose City Rollers, Portland Trail Blazers basketball, Flag football, Mt. hood SkiBowl, Golf, Mini Olympics, and Martial Arts. Sports Buddies is open to all eight counties (Multnomah, Clark, Clackamas, Skamania, Cowlitz, Washington, Marion, and Wahkiakum), served by Big Brothers Big Sister Northwest. (Sports Buddies is sponsored by Nike, Portland Timbers, and the Rose City Rollers)

GOURD DANCE

Saturday, October 8, 2011, 10 AM – 11 PM

Location: 5135 NE Columbia

All are invited to attend a gourd dance at the NAYA Youth and Family Center. This event is free. Bring your own folding chairs. Master of Ceremonies: Tom Phillips & Arlie Neskahi; Host Drum: Big Medicine; Head Gourd Dancer: Antone Minthorn; Invited Gourd Dance Group: Nez Perce Warrior Society Gourd Dance Clan; Hosted by the American Indian Urban Teacher Program, United Indian Students in Higher Education, Wisdom of the Elders, and NAYA

PARENT ACADEMY

Ongoing throughout the school year

Location: Various PPS locations

Contact: Parent Academy, 503.916.2000 ext. 63080

The Parent Academy is collaborative initiative between PPS and community-based partners to acknowledge, honor, support and promote family involvement in student achievement. The 2011 fall course schedule is available online at <http://www.pps.k12.or.us/departments/family-engagement/5158.htm> There are a wide range of topics such as “*Advocating for Your Child at School*” “*College on the Horizon: Preparing Your Child for the Future*”, and the “*Teenage Brain: How it Works and How We Can Work With It.*” Workshops are free, and many provide dinner and child care.

CALENDAR:

Event details are outlined in the preceding pages

Sept 26th-Oct 20th, **Gifts From My Ancestors**, University of Portland, Buckley Center Gallery

October 1st, 10 AM—2 PM, Cherokee Stickball Presentation, Life Change Christian Center, Betty Dorsey Hall

October 6th, 4—6 PM, **Indigenous Peoples of PSU Open House**

October 8th, 10 AM—11PM, **Gourd Dance**, NAYA Youth & Family Center

October 11th, 11 AM—2 PM, **Fun Walk**, Healing Feathers/NASCC

October 11th, 5 PM, **Skyn Deep**, Multi-Cultural Film Festival, North Portland Neighborhood Library

October 12th, 6:00—8:30 PM, **Financial Aid** workshop, PPS Indian Education

October 13th-16th, **Storytelling Festival**, NASCC

October 22nd, 8:30 AM—3 PM, **Parent Leadership Conference**, Community and Parents for Public Schools

October 26th, 6:30—8:30 PM, **Strengthening The Circle** workshop, PPS Indian Education

Oct 30th-Nov 2nd, **Spirit of Giving Conference**, NARA NW

November 4th, 3—6 PM, **Stories of Place Celebration**, Atkinson Elementary School (Summer ACE families are invited!)

Nov 8th or Nov 15th, 6—8 PM, **Moccasin Key Chain** workshop, PPS Indian Education

November 29th, 6—8 PM, **Stress Relief** workshop, Healing Feathers with Judy Bluehorse Skelton & Dr. Cheryl Forster at the **NASCC, 710 SW Jackson**. Contact Dean Azule at 503.725.5348

To read the PPS news article about Indian Education's 2011 Summer ACE program please visit: <http://www.pps.k12.or.us/news/6222.htm>

November is National Native American Heritage Month. If you know of a school or community event that we should be aware of, please send us an email or give us a call. kkitchen@pps.net or 503-916-6499.

Portland Public Schools recognizes the diversity and worth of all individuals and groups and their roles in society. All individuals and groups shall be treated with fairness in all activities, programs and operations, without regard to age, color, creed, disability, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation.

TALKING CIRCLE

