

# Four Directions

Where the Tribes & Kyrene come together as one!

November 2007

# Kyrene School District Indian Education

## Welcome Fall!

We hope that your family is enjoying the wonderful weather in our beautiful state of Arizona. It is a busy time of year for all of us with the holidays approaching and I would like to acknowledge the time that our Native American Parent Advisory Committee members have dedicated to our Indian Education programs. Genny Smiley, President, Sharon Tom, Vice-President, Lenore Haskie-Franklin, Secretary/Treasurer and Rosemarie Jones & Stacy King, Fundraising Co-Chairs have worked over the past few months to put together an exciting calendar of events for you during the coming months (details inside.) They have also been working incredibly hard raising funds for scholarships and activities by selling fry bread at schools' Fall Festivals. I am so grateful to have their support and friendship! Please give them a word of thanks when you see them! I am also here for your help, so please be in touch if you need anything!



**Terry Rodriguez**

Indian Education Program Coordinator

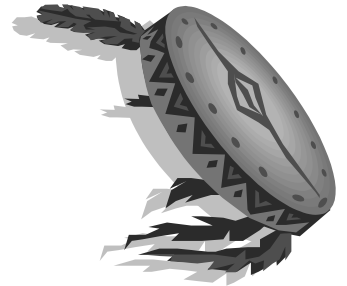
Phone: 480-783-4091

E-mail: [trodriguez@kyrene.org](mailto:trodriguez@kyrene.org)

## Attention Middle School and High School Students & Parents

Please plan to attend our next N.A.P.A.C. General Meeting  
Thursday, November 29, 2007 at 6:00 pm  
Ben Furlong Education Center,  
8700 S Kyrene Road, Tempe

Representatives from Maricopa Community Colleges  
will discuss their Hoops of Learning and  
ACE Plus (Achieving a College Education) programs.  
More information inside...



### Kyrene Indian Education Mission Statement:

We create and implement services designed to provide educational and cultural enrichment for American Indian/Alaskan Natives students (AI/AN) while promoting an active Native American community within Kyrene schools.

### Services We Facilitate Providing:

- Native American Academic and Cultural Enrichment (i.e., group mentoring & tutoring) at select schools
- Cultural Resource Library for Kyrene Staff
- Four Directions Newsletter, Website, and Listserv
- Native American Parent Advisory Committee

### Who is Eligible for Services?

- Federally recognized members of a tribe, band or other organized group of Indians including those terminated since 1940.
- Children or grandchildren of any such member mentioned above.
- An Inuit, Aleut or other Alaskan Native.
- Considered by the Secretary of the Department of Interior to be an Indian.

**We need Eligible families to complete an Indian Certification Form (506)  
so that we can continue to receive funding!!**

Indian Education  
Program Coordinator:

**Terry Rodriguez**  
480-783-4091  
[trodriguez@kyrene.org](mailto:trodriguez@kyrene.org)

Educational Liaison:

**Suzette Johnson**  
480-284-0909  
[suzettejohnson@kyrene.org](mailto:suzettejohnson@kyrene.org)

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## ***NAPAC & Indian Education Welcomes Suzette Johnson, Educational Liaison***

Hello, my name is Suzette Johnson. I am Navajo and grew up on the reservation near Leupp, AZ. I served in the U.S. Army in Germany; where I met my husband of 15 years. We have two sons (Kylin age 11 and Zack age 13) who attend Andersen Elementary and Andersen Junior High, respectively.

After my military service, I attended Arizona State University where I graduated with a Bachelor's of Science in Psychology. I have six years of diverse work experience in social work. During that time, I have worked with the seriously mental ill, homeless/disabled veterans, drug-dependant adolescents, and abused/neglected Native children.

I have held officer positions with the Head Start program in Sanostee, NM, the PTA at Laird Elementary School in Tempe, AZ and I am currently the vice-president for Chandler USD's Native American Parent Committee. I am very excited to be a part of the Indian Education Team and I am grateful for the warm reception I have received.

My goals for this new position include: advocating for students, parents, and schools; providing professional development to all Kyrene staff and parents; supporting parents with gaining skills in parenting and working with schools; and offering case management and resource/referral services. I'm looking forward to meeting you!

*-Suzette*

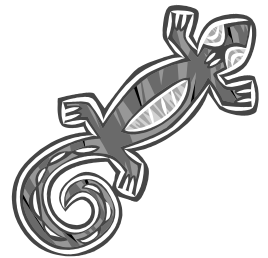


### **Family Arts & Crafts Afternoon**

Saturday, December 8, 2007  
1:00-3:00 pm  
Kyrene de las Brisas Multipurpose Room  
777 N Desert Breeze Blvd.  
Chandler, AZ

Please plan to join us and share an afternoon of family fun including ornament painting, beading, quilting and string games.

Refreshments will be served and FUN will be in abundant supply!



### ***Subscribe!!***

Sign-up to receive e-mail communications

from Kyrene's Indian Education Program! Delivered right to your inbox: information about upcoming events and other important news!

Log on to [www.kyrene.org](http://www.kyrene.org) and click on the "Subscribe" link located at the bottom right-hand corner. Select "Kyrene Indian Education News," fill in your e-mail information and click the Subscribe button!



### **Exploring Additional Grant Funding Opportunities...**

We are in the process of exploring additional grant opportunities. One of these, funding through the Johnson O'Malley Program, provides funding based upon the number of Certificates of Indian Blood on file that indicate the blood quantum percentage.

Please submit your child's CIB today to:

Kyrene Indian Education  
8700 S Kyrene Rd, #14  
Tempe AZ 85284



## Upcoming NAPAC Meetings & Events in Kyrene

**General Meeting, Hoops of Learning & ACE Plus Presentation**, Thursday, November 29, 2007, 6:00 pm, Ben Furlong Education Center

**Family Arts & Crafts Afternoon**, Saturday, December 8, 2007, 1:00-3:00 pm, Kyrene de las Brisas Multipurpose Room

**General Meeting**, Tuesday, February 19, 2008, 6:00 pm, Ben Furlong Education Center

**Native American Film Night**, Thursday, March 6, 2008, 6:00 pm, Ben Furlong Education Center, details will follow.

**General Meeting**, Tuesday, April 22, 2008, 6:00 pm, Ben Furlong Education Center



## Hoops of Learning and ACE Plus

Learn all about these programs designed for Native American students interested in higher education. The process actually begins as early as the Middle School years. Join us during our November 29th N.A.P.A.C. meeting when representatives from three Maricopa Community Colleges will discuss these important support programs.



**Hoops of Learning:** The mission of this program is to encourage, enable and empower Native American students to complete high school and successfully transition to higher education. Benefits include: students will be awarded a scholarship for tuition, fees, and books; unlimited learning assistance, individual support services, and retention assistance; learn the value of a post-secondary education.

**ACE Plus:** ACE Plus (Achieving a College Education) is an early outreach two-year scholarship-based college preparation program for high school students. The mission of this program is to increase the success rate of first generation, under-represented financially disadvantaged college bound students. ACE PLUS aids the students in their successful completion of high school and assists them with a smooth transition into higher education.



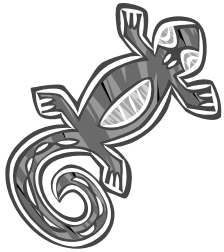


## ***Thank You to Kyrene's Native American Parent Advisory Committee for Providing Enriching Opportunities to our Young Students***

N.A.P.A.C. voted to sponsor a student - Jennifer Jones - to attend the 2007 Arizona Indian Education Association's (AIEA) Youth Conference held on October 18 & 19, 2007. This was an amazing opportunity for Native American 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders to gather and meet role models in a wide variety of professional fields. Thank you to N.A.P.A.C. for providing the funds to help Kyrene students participate in such enriching experiences. Here's what some of the Youth Conference attendees had to say:

### **Jennifer Jones, 7<sup>th</sup> grader at Kyrene Middle School reported:**

I liked the media workshops, because I got hands-on-experience and met people who know about cameras, news broadcasts, radio broadcasts, and print journalism. During the fun, I learned how to work the cameras, speaking on the news, experience questioning on the radio, what they write when they do online journalism, and how to put captions on a picture. I would recommend kids to go to this conference because they can meet with experienced Native American people, such as Mary Kim Titla and Andy Harvey, newscasters from 12 news. I hope more students and parents will go to the next conference.



### **Zack Johnson is an 8<sup>th</sup> grade student who attends school in the Chandler School District. Zack says:**

I really enjoyed going to the AIEA conference. It was very informative and the instructors made it very simple to learn the material. It definitely opened my eyes to different professions such as the media business (camera man, radio, news reporter, and on-line journalist), a doctor and dentist. I liked the choices but may I suggest making it longer. I hope I can go back for the 2008 conference.

### **Suzette Johnson, Kyrene Native American Educational Liaison, who chaperoned Jennifer and Zack and reported:**

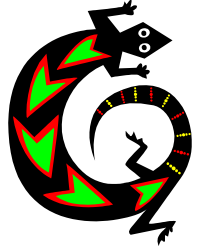
The Arizona Indian Education Association (AIEA) 2007 Native American Youth Conference was a two day conference specifically targeting aspiring native teens. Workshops were offered that included seminars for one of the following topics: education, media, medical, dental, public service, and vocational training.

The students I chaperoned attended the media seminars that allowed them to interact and role-play with Native American journalists, radio hosts, news casters, and media personalities. The students were given a brief overview from ASU's Walter Cronkite School of Journalism. Afterwards, they participated in many hands-on activities including: being interviewed on camera, talking on the radio, and writing photo captions and headlines for articles.

Participants were introduced to Native American roles models such as Ryan Wilson from the Oglala Sioux Tribe and Dr. Lucinda Lewis of the Navajo Nation. Throughout the conference, we were able to speak with representatives from the local universities, including Northern Arizona University, Arizona State University, Mesa Community College, Phoenix College, etc.

As a chaperone and parent, it was exciting to see the reactions of the students. I think the conference increased their interest in advanced education, broadened their exposure to career choices, and provided information on scholarship opportunities. It also provided an outlet for positive interaction with peers and increased their awareness of Native American culture. It was a great experience that I would recommend to all students.





## 2007-2008 Native American Academic Enrichment Leaders

<b>Aprende</b>	Certified Teacher	<u>Tracy Waggoner</u>
	Certified Teacher	<u>John Sadauskas</u>
	Certified Teacher	<u>Jessie Mackie</u>
<b>Lagos</b>	Certified Teacher	<u>Kate Taylor</u>
	Certified Teacher	<u>Sharon Lotz</u>
	Support Staff	<u>Pat Chase</u>
<b>Mariposa</b>	Instructional Assistant	<u>Barbara Keeney</u>
<b>Milenio</b>	Instructional Assistant	<u>JoAnn Smith</u>
<b>Niños</b>	Instructional Assistant	<u>Patti Benster</u>
<b>Paloma</b>	Instructional Assistant	<u>Steve Schaeffer</u>



### In the Classroom

Kyrene School District's Native American Academic Enrichment Leaders provide culturally relevant group and one-on-one tutoring. We are proud of the work they do with our children each and every day! Here's an update from some of them:

The Native American program at **Lagos** is an after school club. Children from grades K-5 attend. Activities these students enjoy include: snack, homework support, computer activities, participation in the Accelerated Reader program, guest presentations, and board games. Kate Taylor, 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, sponsors grades 3-5. Pat Chase, support staff, and Sharon Lotz, librarian, sponsor grades K-2. Fifteen children are enrolled in the club and attendance is high and consistent. Classroom teachers communicate with club sponsors when children need assistance with special projects or homework assignments. Children enjoy coming to the club and experiencing the friendship, and teacher support they find there.

– Sharon Lotz

At **Milenio**, first Grade students have been learning a variety of fun math games like "Nine Ways to Make Ten," Go Fish with Ten, Addition Top-it, Addition Bingo, and In and Out. These games have helped them with their addition facts to 10 and with the "counting on" addition skill. It has been a fun way to learn.

— JoAnn Smith

At **Aprende Middle School** we always work on homework and sharing family events as well as anything the teachers have asked us to improve upon. We recently wrote letters to Nike about the new N7 shoe made for Native Americans. We have also been reading (with edits) Sherman Alexie's new book *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* written for secondary age kids and are looking at writing letters to him as well.

–Tracy Waggoner

Native American students at **Mariposa** are working in groups to refine their skills in comprehension, decoding, and paragraph writing. Shortly we will be planning a learning center for the First Graders' Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> Native American feast. We hope to explain what a Pow-Pow is and to teach the Round Dance to them. Any Mariposa parents who would like to help may contact Barbara Keeney at [bkeeney@kyrene.org](mailto:bkeeney@kyrene.org).

— Barbara Keeney

Remember to attend the next NAPAC meeting on Thursday, November 29th at 6:00 pm!!

Please deliver to:

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**1:00—3:00 pm**

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**Enjoy an afternoon of ornament painting, beading, quilting and Navajo string games.**

**Please join us!**

### **Have you completed a 506 Form ?**

Much of our success in providing quality academic assistance programs for our Kyrene Native American students is made possible by your family's completion of the **Title VII Student Eligibility Certification** form, otherwise known as the 506 form. Completed 506 forms and Certificates of Indian Blood determine the amount of funding we receive each year to provide culturally relevant academic assistance programs. (This form only needs to be completed once.) **Please help us continue to provide services by filling out your child's 506 form and attaching their Certificate of Indian Blood of today!!**