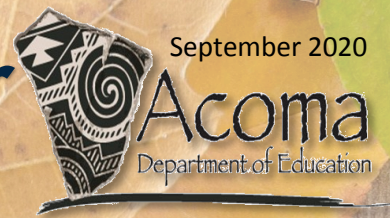


September Newsletter

Gu'waa'dzi Hau'ba!



If any community member would like to receive the Acoma Department of Education newsletter, and be a part of our mailing list, or would like to nominate a student for our student spotlight section please contact the ADoE office at (505) 552-6077.

Greetings Everyone,

The Fall months are near as well as a period of renewal. We are now into a new school year and it has already been an adventurous one. Who would have ever thought that elementary and secondary schools would have to take on learning through virtual classrooms? Not me. It is a challenging time for everyone, especially if you have never had to experience education through virtual classrooms. The Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is one of the most life-changing events to happen in our life-time but I am optimistic that we will overcome and live life better and stronger when it's all over.

Many of you have taken advantage of our resources at the Department of Education. The Chrome-books, Jetpacks, and Connectivity Relief Program have proven to be helpful to students and families who are trying to navigate the new school year. Please remember that we are here to help you. Call or stop by if you have questions or need a resource. The staff can assist with most requests or connect families with other potential resources.

The Haak'u Learning Center and Haak'u Community Academy are serving lunches to their students, so please take advantage of this service. Also, each student was given a laptop or other device to help with their classroom learning. I strongly suggest that you keep in contact with your child's teacher when you have questions or concerns. Your child's education is more important than ever and the outcome of virtual learning is not yet known. Students are required to log on to their classrooms and/or complete self-paced work and turn it in. Students who do not log in to their classrooms or turn their work in will be considered absent for most schools. It's important to make sure as parents, we are monitoring our children and making sure they do their part in learning.

We are trying to come back to work safely at the Department of Education. This means that we are on staggered schedules but there is always someone at the office to take calls and assist. Hopefully, the Pueblo will continue to show positive results in this pandemic and bring everyone back to work soon. But all of this depends on you and I. We must continue to wear our face masks, wash our hands, and practice social distancing.

First-time college students may have headed out to their campus' and we are excited for them to experience this new chapter in their pursuit of higher education. It is important for us, as parents and extended family to support our students and their new experience at college. The time apart between students and their families and community will be extra special and well worth it when their degree is in hand and opening the door to a new path.

Everyone, please be safe and take care of yourself and others around you.

Until next time,
Melissa E. Riley, Ph.D.
Executive Director

Guu waa dzi Parents of Haaku' Community Academy,



The first week of school was exciting and at times, overwhelming, as we all learn how to manage teaching and learning remotely using technology. Seeing all our students online really warmed our hearts, and we welcome all the new students. HCA's enrollment has increased from about 160 to 170 students. We are so grateful for the guidance and patience given by parents and family members, as the students navigate Google Classroom and their work packet assignments. If there are any questions or concerns, please call the school, or contact your child's teacher.

Getting Online

On Monday, August 17th, HCA distributed laptop computers to each student. The Acoma Department of Education partners with HCA in making sure all families can access the internet with reliable connectivity. For the most part, students are following the virtual online schedule and are attending their live sessions Tuesday through Friday with their homeroom teacher. Mondays, Mr. Hunt conducts his PE classes through assigned lessons on Google Meet. If there are any problems with the computer, contact Marcus Pino at 934-6243. If there are problems with Google Classroom, contact Mr. Autrey, Mr. Peterson, Mrs. Perez at 552-6671.

Monday Packet Drop Off and Pick Up

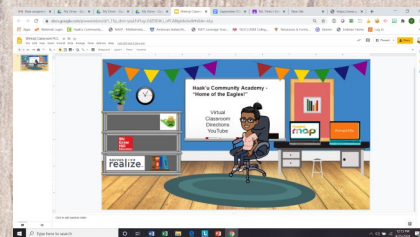
Every Monday our staff will collect completed work packets and pass out the next week's assignment from 8:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M from the gym's west exit/entrance. Make sure the packets are clearly labeled with student names, grade and the assigned teacher. Thank you parents and care-givers for monitoring your child's learning.

Teacher Office Hours

Besides the 2:30- 3:30 P.M. office hours, teachers will now schedule Mondays for additional schoolwork help time. Check out teacher-parent letters for specific times. In addition, the 21st Century After-School Tutoring program coordination by Mr. Autrey is in the works, and should be up and running by the end of September. The goal is to have additional homework help and health and wellness activities available after 3:30 P.M. Enrichment and cultural lessons are integrated into activities. Stay tuned for more information.

VR -Virtual Reality /Bitmoji Classrooms

Using the Google Slides application, teachers created interactive classrooms where students can visit and click icons to access various online programs, supporting the teaching of core subjects. Programs like Epic, an online library of over 40,000 books, are available for students to explore, or read books assigned by the teacher in some VR Classrooms. The VR/Bitmoji Classrooms are located on the Google Classroom platform.



Lunch, Routines and Communication

Delivering lunch has been running smoothly and on schedule. Let the school know of any changes with your delivery.

Each teacher has sent home a daily schedule to help with class work completion and time management.

There are many ways to get answers to your questions, such as phone calls, text messages, and Google email. Attendance is vital to your child's success, so keep up the awesome job of helping students log on and enabling their cameras.

We are so grateful for all your time and support. Go Eagles!!

Mrs. E. Trujillo, Principal and Mrs. V. Perez, Instructional Coach

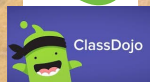
Programs Teachers Want You to Know



Google Classroom- An online program listing announcements, class assignments and links to other educational materials.



Moby Max - An individualized learning platform for students to refine skills and learn above at their own pace for reading and math.



Class Dojo - A fun communication application aimed at lower elementary for parents and teachers.



TinkerCAD -A math and art software used by eighth graders to explore creativity and design skills.

ADoE Scholarship Deadline Dates

First Time Applicants for the Acoma Higher Education Program

- Due Date for Applications: **October 1, 2020**
- Due Date for Supporting Documents: **December 1, 2020**

Continuing Applicants for the Acoma Higher Education Program

- Due Date for Application: **November 1, 2020**
- Due Date for Supporting Documents: **December 31, 2020**

All Applicants for the Pueblo of Acoma Education Funds

- Due Date for Application : **October 1, 2020**
- Due Date for Supporting Documents: **December 31, 2020**

If you have any questions or would like an application emailed to you please contact Leslie M. Vallo or Joanie Sanchez at (505) 552-6077 or (505) 401-0016

Email: lmvallo@poamail.org or jsanchez@poamail.org



ACOMA LEARNING CENTER

PUBLIC LIBRARY & COMPUTER CENTER

Hello, September!



HAPPY FEAST DAY from the Acoma Learning Center!



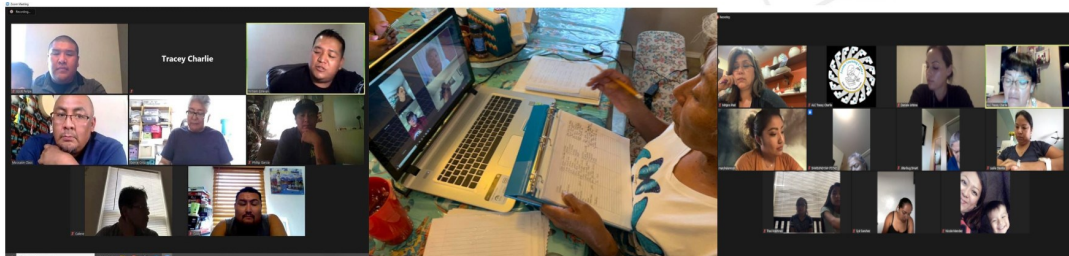
Hello everyone, the Acoma Learning Center is open, but we are offering our services a little differently during these unexpected times. The Acoma Learning Center has implemented 6 reopening phases, following the CDC, New Mexico Health Department, Acoma Department of Education & the Acoma Pueblo. We are currently operating our second phase of reopening and will be notifying the public throughout the pandemic if changes occur. We are not collecting any library materials that have been checked out since March 2020, and no late fees are being collected. Staff will notify all patrons when we will start collecting our items back.

**STAYSAFE
AND STAY
POSITIVE**

WE OFFER CURBSIDE SERVICES!

We are offering services for printing (HP ePrinting), faxing, copies, and scanning. We are open Monday through Friday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

**LIBRARY
HOURS**



Monday - Friday
10:00 am to 2:00 pm

CONTACT US

(505)552-5160 - Office
(505)331-8151 - Mobile

(505)552-9613 - Fax
alc@poamail.org - Email

Virtual Learning - Taking on New Approaches

Through we miss all of our in-person classes, we have ventured into the online learning atmosphere. We offer online courses for language and cultural skills, such as beginner & intermediate language groups, embroidery, and moccasin making. We will be advertising when classes open for new membership. All classes are streamed through ZOOM. At this time, we do not offer equipment for class participation.



Find Us | *We're Social*



Niutemahgu Project 2020

In partnership with the Acoma Leadership Development Initiative program, Ancestral Lands Program, and the IAIA Land Grants Program, we are pleased to announce our Niutemahgu Project is running. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we had to change the structure of our youth farming project. Since we cannot implement our plan in the old village, we brought it home to our students. Our goal was to provide agricultural sustainability through our Acoma farming influences. We like to thank Aaron Lowden, Director of The Ancestral Lands Program, for providing the material and seeds for our children. This project took group effort and to everyone that contributed Daa'waa'e!

HISTORY of PROGRAM

The Niutemahgu' (It will sprout) Project was designed alongside the Acoma Leadership Development Initiative (ALDI). The program is an afterschool agricultural program established in 2019 at the Haak'u Community Academy. The Niutemahgu' Project is geared toward reestablishing the traditional waffle gardens within the San Estevan del Rey Mission - Convento Courtyard. The overall purpose is to engage the youth in understanding the cultural and traditional significance of Acoma farming.



HCA-Acoma
Leadership
Development
Initiative



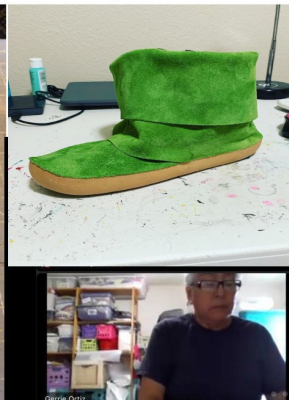
IAIA
INSTITUTE OF
AMERICAN INDIAN ARTS
Land Grants Program



Online Moccasin Making

At the end of July, we started our online moccasin class via ZOOM. We have eight enrolled in the current course. To our surprise, the students have learned and picked up the skill a lot quicker than our in-person classes.

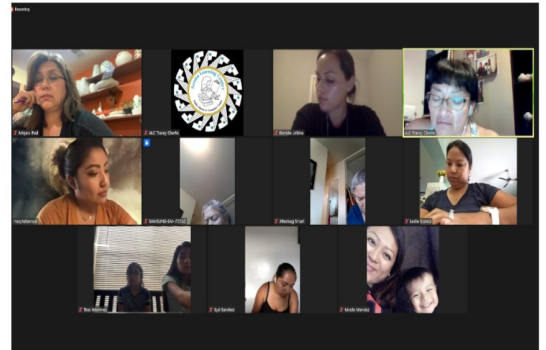
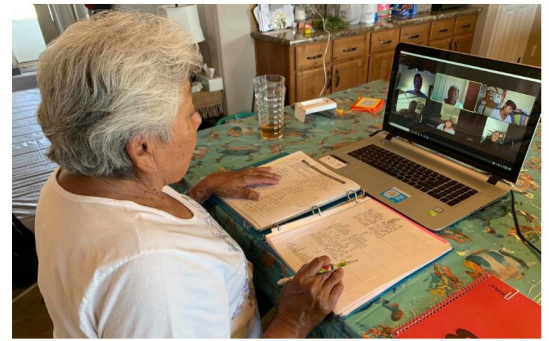
Faron Toratlita is our instructor for this class, and he too, is amazed at how much his students have picked up without him physically guiding them through each step. We hope to continue to provide the course through November 2020. The next session will be starting September 21, 2020.



For more information contact the Acoma Learning Center at 505-552-5160

Language - Change for the future

Online learning was something that we had tried out last year, and at the time, weren't fully ready to take that step. Due to the pandemic, we still want to provide and continue our programming in language and cultural preservation. Language learning has been one of the Acoma Learning Center's goals we strive for each year. Language is the ultimate key that helps identify who we are as Aku'mehs. Without language, we would lose a considerable part of our culture and tradition. We have two language courses running at this time—a beginner's class with Mrs. Marietta Juanico and an Intermediate class with Mrs. Bonnie Leno. We are so proud of the two individuals for being among the few laying the foundation for teaching new approaches in language learning.



Sharing Stories

As part of our new collaboration with the Acoma Language Program, we are working with them in recording stories and language terminology videos for families in the Acoma community. All content and projects will be for our Facebook group called digiGROUP.

If you are a fluent speaker interested in translating or reading stories. And are interested in being a part of this project.

Please contact us at 505-552-5160 or email at alc@poamail.org.

WASH YOUR HANDS



1. WET YOUR HANDS.



2. APPLY SOAP.



3. WASH YOUR HANDS FOR 20 SECONDS.



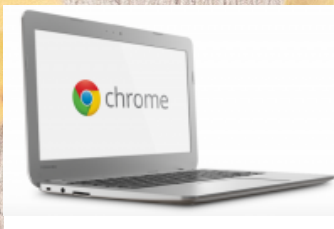
4. RINSE



5. DRY WITH A CLEAN TOWEL.



6. USE THE PAPER TOWEL TO TURN OFF THE TAP.



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Au-

NEED A LAPTOP FOR SCHOOL?

The Acoma Department of Education has a limited number of Chromebooks to loan out to students in need of a laptop for educational purposes.

For more information please call Joanie Sanchez or Leslie M. Vallo at (505) 552-6077 or (505) 401-0016.



DO YOU CURRENTLY HAVE INTERNET SERVICE AT HOME WITH STUDENTS UTILIZING THE INTERNET FOR SCHOOL?

You may be eligible for the Connectivity Relief Program.

For more information please call Joanie Sanchez or Leslie M. Vallo at (505) 552-6077 or (505) 401-0016.



A C O M A L E A R N I N G C E N T E R

CURBSIDE PICK-UP



MONDAY - FRIDAY | 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

How do I request for services?

Printing | Copy | Fax

By phone: Call (505)552-5160 or (505)331-8151
If we miss your call, please leave a message and we'll get back to you as soon as we're able.

Email: alc@poamail.org

Social Media: "Acoma Learning Center"
Facebook | Instagram

USB: Place USB Flash drive in bin and return to vehicle.
Staff will place prints and USB back in bins.

How do I pick up?

Call (505)552-5160 or (505)331-8151 to arrange a time to pick-up materials. Items will be placed in plastic bins outside of the ALC. Please wear gloves and a protective face mask.

NOTE: We are striving to make these services safe for you and our staff. Services will be contactless.

For information call us at 505-552-5160 or 505-331-8151

**PRINTING
SERVICES
AVAILABLE**



HP SMART PRINT NOW AVAILABLE

Printing is made more convenient!
Save the wait time and print straight from your device.



STEP 1

Download **HP SMART** application to your mobile device or tablet.



STEP 2

← **HP SMART** application



STEP 3

Now make sure you are connected to our
WIFI - ALCLIBRARY 2.4GHZ. Password is posted to the front door.



STEP 4

Once you connected to the WIFI open up the **HP SMART** app.
Select add printer - search - **HP Officejet Pro X576dw**
Now that the printer is selected you will be able to print from you device. Scanning is also available.

CALL US at 505-552-5160 to pick up your prints.

Sebco Books

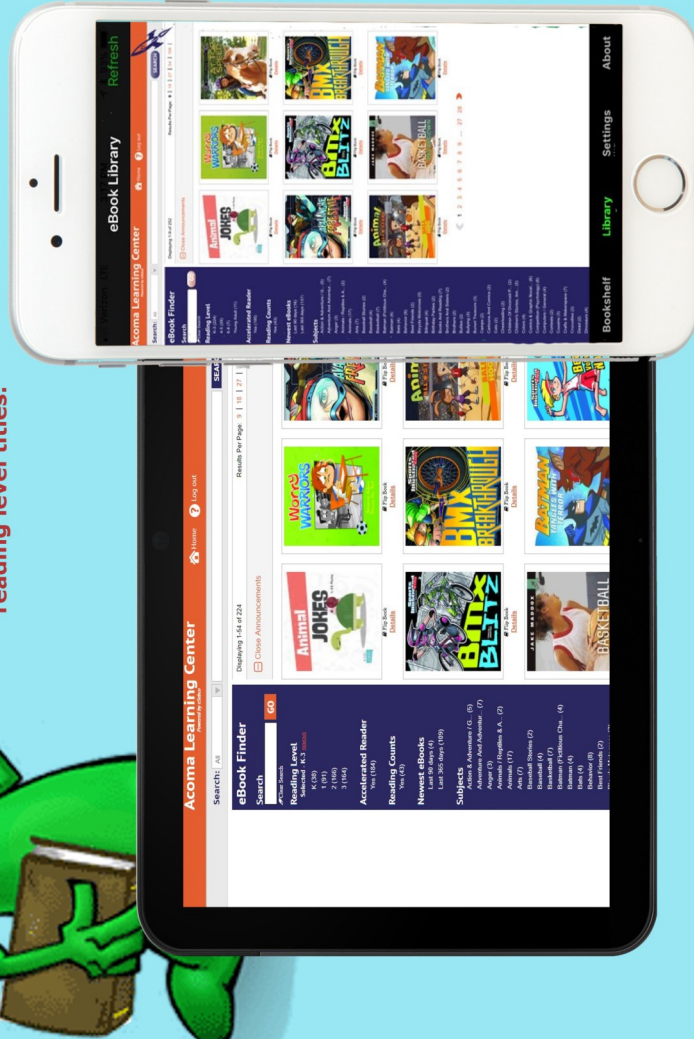


eSebco Apps

for iPad, iPhone, Android, Kindle Fire and Windows 8

eSebco has created the perfect way to enjoy our eBooks! Simply download our apps from iTunes, Windows 8, Google Play or directly (for Kindle Fire) and start reading! It's that simple!

Stop by the Acoma Learning Center to step up your FREE eSebco account and enjoy 292 (K-12) reading level titles.



Available on the
App Store

GET IT ON
Google Play

Available on the
kindle fire

Windows 8



F A C E B O O K

digigroup

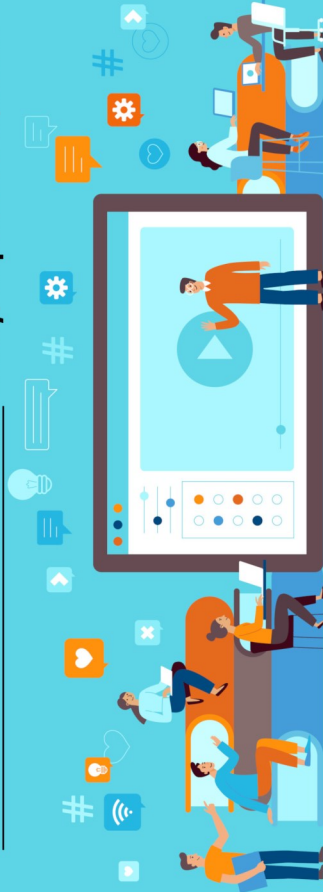
The Acoma Learning Center would like to introduce a new digital resource group for our cultural and language programming. Join and look for our Facebook group "digigroup."

digigroup - is a private group design for sharing digital content for at-home language learning designed by the Acoma Learning Center. We will share everyday common language terminology, fairy tales, cooking tutorials or translate stories through this group, etc. No traditional information will be shared through this group.

OPEN to ALL ACOMA TRIBAL ENROLLED MEMBERS OR ACOMA DESCENDANTS

Verification may be required upon request of tribal membership or lineage.

GROUP REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Friday, September 11, 2020



For more information call us at (505)552-5160

New Mexico Letters About Literature

Read. Be Inspired. Write Back.

CALL FOR ENTRIES!

The New Mexico State Library invites students in grades 4 through 12 to enter the New Mexico annual
LETTERS ABOUT LITERATURE WRITING COMPETITION!

Polish up your reflective writing skills and write a letter to an author—living or dead—explaining how his or her work changed your view of yourself or your world.

THREE COMPETITION LEVELS:

Level 1: Grades 4, 5 and 6

Level 2: Grades 7 and 8

Level 3: Grades 9, 10, 11 and 12

Entry Deadline (all competition levels): January 11, 2021

HOW TO ENTER:

Review the official contest rules for entry details, specifically #6 through #9.

1. Select a book that you have read and about which you have strong feelings or which has changed your view of yourself or the world.
2. Imagine sitting down with the author of this work and sharing your personal thoughts. Your letter should be reflective, personal and sincere, like a private conversation, not a book report or a fan letter.
3. Share specific details about the book and about your reaction to the book.
4. Keep in mind that this is a reflective writing contest and that means you need to think about what you read and the meaning you gleaned from the author's words as well as the impact of those words upon you.
5. Type your letter. Use your first name **ONLY** in the signature.
6. Complete the entry form (see the next page) and staple it to the top of the first page of your letter.
7. Complete the permission form (see <https://lettersaboutliterature.nmculture.org/>) for all entries age 13 or under as of November 1, 2020.
8. Enclose your letter and the required form(s) in a letter-sized envelope. **TEACHERS' NOTE:** Please mail class sets in one large flat envelope 9" x 11" (or larger).
9. Indicate the competition level on the envelope—Level 1, or Level 2 or Level 3—depending on your grade. If you are submitting for more than one level, use a separate envelope for each level.
10. Mail your entry to:
New Mexico Letters About Literature
New Mexico State Library
1209 Camino Carlos Rey
Santa Fe, NM 87507
11. Alternatively you may submit your entry electronically at NM.LAL@state.nm.us
 - Microsoft Word or PDF documents only will be accepted electronically.
 - Entry form and signed permission form for all entries age 13 or under as of November 1, 2020 are required for all electronic submissions and both must be sent as separate attachments.

AWARDS:

Winners in all three competition levels will be recognized at an awards ceremony and cash prizes will be awarded. The State Library will announce all finalists and winners and will publish the three winning letters on its website in April 2021. The awards ceremony will be held in Santa Fe in early May 2021. Due to COVID-19 please be advised that scheduling and venue for the awards ceremony are subject to change.

State winners in each competition level will receive a \$200 cash award; second place winners a \$100 cash award; third place winners a \$50 cash award; and honorable mention writers a \$25 award.

NOW ENROLLING!

The Haak'u



Family and Child Education (FACE) Program

Contact our team! (505)-934-2144 or (505)-934-1714

Serving American Indian Families within the Pueblo of Acoma and surrounding Pueblos and Communities.

FACE offers...

Home Visitation (Prenatal-3 Years old)

- Personal home visits would be scheduled at a convenient time and place for your family.
- Certified Parent Educators will bring fun activities for you and your child that promote early learning and development based on your schedule.
- Parent Educators will help guide and discuss your child's development and provide hearing and vision screenings to make sure your child is on track.

WE ALSO OFFER INCENTIVES!

Free Books for families, Toddler aged toys, Puzzles, Strollers, Breast Pumps, Diaper Bags full of items, and monthly Field Trips, etc., at sign up and throughout your FACE journey!

Center-based Program located at the Haak'u Community Academy Pre-K (3-4 years old)

- Center-based children will develop school readiness, so that children come to school ready to learn in standards-based kindergarten classrooms. FACE will incorporate active learning, and include evidence-based teaching strategies—particularly in the areas of language/literacy learning, social skills and mathematics.
- Parent and Child Together (PACT) Time, will focus on Culture and Language.
- Meals and snacks will be provided daily.



Adult Education Program

- Adult Education participants will focus on building life skills, such as reading, writing, math, technology, etc.
- Education, Job Guidance and Training will be offered for Adult Education students.
- G.E.D prep and testing, college readiness, improve work skills, etc.
- Adult Education participants will participate in Parent and Child Together Time daily within the center-based classroom
- Refreshments will be provided daily

“Through our student centered instruction, it is our job as a FACE team to help guide and support our participants in accomplishing their goals!”

School Based Services: (Kindergarten-3rd Grade)

- Parent and Student Interaction within the classroom.

**We are located at the
Haak'u Community Academy,
but can also service families in the
surrounding communities.**

FACE Coordinator
Melissa Riley, Ph.D.
MRiley@poamail.org

FACE Parent
Educator
Larissa Judd
ljudd@haakuca.org

FACE Adult Educator
Christen Tenorio
c.tenorio@haakuca.org

Keres Language Institute

The Keres Language Group will host a Keres Language Fall Institute. The event is scheduled for the third week of October. This Institute co-hosted by the Department of Education is funded by the ANA Grant (Administration for Native Americans).

The goal of the Institute is to educate Acoma tribal members and community exclusively about language preservation, resilience, and empowerment. Presentations and discussions will take place that surround empowering the community, encouraging young members to speak Keres, addressing the generation gap between fluent and non-fluent speakers, and defining community goals on the future of Keres learning. Continuing education credits may be available.

Topics and speakers to be announced. We will update you on registration, etc. as the event draws near. Please feel free to contact the Acoma Department of Education at 505-552-6077 if you have any questions.

Rebecca Martin

Language Project Coordinator



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► Writing Lab

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Anywhere eLearning**



HelpNow Learning Suite

Access personalized eLearning from certified tutors and writing experts.

HelpNow Subjects

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| • Spanish | • Pre-Algebra |
| • Elementary School Science | • Algebra 1 |
| • Middle School Science | • Algebra 2 |
| • Biology | • Precalculus |
| • Chemistry | • Calculus |
| • Physics | • SAT |
| • Earth Science | • ACT |
| • AP Tests | • GED |
| • TASC | • HISET |



Go to www.elportalnm.org and click on Brainfuse HelpNow to get connected to a live tutor!

TOP 6 BENEFITS OF USING TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM

It is important to acknowledge that students are already interested and engaged in using technology, this creates many amazing opportunities for schools and teachers to benefit from integrating some forms of technology in the classroom and to make teaching and learning more effective. Here are some of the main benefits of using technology.

Improves engagement - When technology is integrated into lessons, students are expected to be more interested in the subjects they are studying. Technology provides different opportunities to make learning more fun and enjoyable in terms of teaching same things in new ways. For instance, delivering teaching through gamification, taking students on virtual field trips and using other online learning resources. What is more, technology can encourage a more active participation in the learning process, which can be hard to achieve through a traditional lecture environment.

Improves knowledge retention - Students who are engaged and interested in things they are studying, are expected to have a better knowledge retention. As mentioned before, technology can help to encourage active participation in the classroom, which also is a very important factor for increased knowledge retention. Different forms of technology can be used to experiment with and decide what works best for students in terms of retaining their knowledge.

Encourages individual learning - No one learns in the same way because of different learning styles and different abilities. Technology provides great opportunities for making learning more effective for everyone with different needs. For example, students can learn at their own speed, review difficult concepts or skip ahead if they need to. What is more, technology can provide more opportunities for struggling or disabled students. Access to the Internet gives students access to a broad range of resources to conduct research in different ways, which in turn can increase the engagement.

Encourages collaboration - Students can practice collaboration skills by getting involved in different online activities. For instance, working on different projects by collaborating with others on forums or by sharing documents on their virtual learning environments. Technology can encourage collaboration with students in the same classroom, same school and even with other classrooms around the world.

Students can learn useful life skills through technology - By using technology in the classroom, both teachers and students can develop skills essential for the 21st century. Students can gain the skills they will need to be successful in the future. Modern learning is about collaborating with others, solving complex problems, critical thinking, developing different forms of communication and leadership skills, and improving motivation and productivity. What is more, technology can help develop many practical skills, including creating presentations, learning to differentiate reliable from unreliable sources on the Internet, maintaining proper online etiquette, and writing emails. These are very important skills that can be developed in the classroom.

Benefits for teachers - With countless online resources, technology can help improve teaching. Teachers can use different apps or trusted online resources to enhance the traditional ways of teaching and to keep students more engaged. Virtual lesson plans, grading software and online assessments can help teachers save a lot time. This valuable time can be used for working with students who are struggling. What is more, having virtual learning environments in schools enhances collaboration and knowledge sharing between teachers.

Excerpt from Webanywhere website, to learn more about different ways of incorporating technology, visit [this website](#).



Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act Program

The Workforce and Innovation Act (WIOA) program is currently seeking new participants. Please read the flyer in the previous newsletter for all the documents required and pick up an application TODAY! If you know anyone who is looking for a job or don't know where to start, please send them to my office. We currently have 4 participants who are doing Work Experience with the Acoma Department of Education, Haak'u Community Academy and Acoma Behavioral Health Services.

I've been working with New Mexico Public Education, Santa Fe Indian School, Acoma Housing Authority and with Acoma Higher Education staff on placing WIFI hotspots within the community. Thanks to PAHA for collaborating with us and allowing us to utilize Cedar Hills Apartment Community Complex to place a WIFI unit inside. This can be used by community members who need WIFI services to complete their work for classes. We also placed units at a couple of teachers' homes from the Haak'u Community Academy and they have graciously agreed to open their yards for community students to park and utilize the WIFI hotspot. Community members please respect their yards and homes, do not litter and don't take anything! If you need access please call our office for the teacher's name, so we can let them know ahead of time.

I would like to wish all our students a happy, stress free and productive school year! It's a new way to learn but take your time and stay on top of your schoolwork!

If you have any questions or want to know more about the WIOA program, please come on in and visit us at the Department of Education Building.

Thank You,

Nolan P. Valdo

Employment and Training Coordinator



P.O. Box 307
Pueblo of Acoma, NM 87034