November 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,

It's that time of year again. Fall weather and cool mornings. It is no wonder that trees shed their leaves and new, bright colors start to appear. As the pandemic continues to move along and disrupt our lives, we will continue to do what we can to have some normalcy and enjoy the new season.

The Department of Education continues to be on the move with making sure our students are taken care of through distribution of jetpacks, laptops, and supplies. We also continue to receive connectivity relief applications for those families that need assistance with maintaining their internet connection. I would encourage everyone to look at our website and download the application or give us a call.

Some good news to share is that we extended some deadlines for the scholarship applications and submitting supporting documents. The pandemic has affected everyone, and we understand that not everyone could access information needed to complete their necessary scholarship paperwork.

The Haak'u Community Academy (HCA) and Haak'u Learning Center building are temporarily closed but we are still providing virtual instruction. This means that your child (ren) should be logging in as required by their teachers. Learning packets were provided to students and teachers would have called you for arrangements. It is important to keep the kids online and attending classes when they are scheduled.

Somethings to consider during this time is that if we do not get the children online for their classes or meetings – this will further delay them when we can go back to school. This is a fear of mine. Going back to school and the children who missed several classes will be further behind. I have spoken to parents and students over the last few months and I can hear the frustration and desperation in their voices about what will happen with school. My stock responses to parents and students is that everyone can do their best, and that's all we can ask at this time. When we don't do our best and slack off, is when we should not expect good grades to happen or feel good that we rightfully earned them. The pandemic has caused some schools to be more passive at grading, but I ask everyone to please do your best.

Parents who are at home with their children may also feel the pain of trying to teach their children. Please know it's okay to experience uncertainty and helplessness but you are not alone and can always reach out to the DOE staff, including me. I encourage you to please call us if you need help or just to talk about your concerns in working with your child.

College students are also encouraged to call us. We are here to help. We will try to get some short courses and webinars together to help with some educational support services. We do have tutoring available for all grades including college-level, so give us a call.

Remember to please wear your masks, practice social distancing, wash your hands and obey the executive orders put in place to protect you and your loved ones. Take care and many blessings to each and everyone one of you.

Until next time.

Melissa E. Riley, Ph.D.

Haak'u Learning Center News

Happy November students and families! I trust that the Halloween and Fall seasons have entered your homes in the warmest ways and that you continue to adjust to the evolving new normal practices related to the pandemic. If you are like me, you are exhausted with hearing more information about the pandemic. Although I do not disregard the information that keeps us safe, the information can be overwhelming. If you know me, and know me well, you know that I have an optimistic and cheerful personality, I like to have fun, laugh, and like to support others in motivating themselves – especially my staff. My approach has been to look at situations from a glass half-full perspective. So, from a glass half-full perspective, let's talk about all the good things that are happening at the Haak'u Learning Center (HLC).

During the month of October, the HLC teaching staff delivered over 60 Hatch tablets to families enrolled in our Head Start and Child Care programs. We are excited to announce that our HLC families have one more technological device in their home. Although the Hatch tablet is specifically for the children, the tablets also give parents access to Zoom and Class Dojo that can be used to communicate with teachers. One of the benefits of purchasing the Hatch tablets is the direct alignment of the Ignite Software with the HLC's curriculum and assessment materials. The more time children spend playing the Ignite Software games, the more data classroom teachers can collect. Within the next few months, I can generate school, classroom, and child data by reviewing the data associated to the children's tablets. Because we are operating with the Learn-at-Home model, assessment related to Family-Teacher Conferences will also look different. The data from the Hatch tablets can be used to develop conversations about your child's progress while they learn at home.

In October, the HLC also launched Class Dojo for our families. Class Dojo is one way for our teachers to interact with the children and families enrolled in their classrooms. Teachers have begun creating instructional videos that are personalized for the children in their classroom. Class Dojo is another way that I can communicate with all the families enrolled in our program. If you are a family enrolled in our program, please continue to provide your child's teacher with videos and pictures of your child's work and progress. If you have not already used the "portfolio" option on Class Dojo, please think about adding photos and videos in this location. One of my favorite bedtime routines is viewing all the photos, pictures, and videos posted to Class Dojo by teachers and families. It is nice to see the connectivity our families have, and to see the new and innovative ways teachers can interact with children and families. The HLC would like to thank the Acoma Department of Education, Tribal Administration, and Tribal Council for their support in purchasing the Hatch tablets.

Amongst all the good things happening at the HLC, the HLC staff continue to work toward program goals. Our HLC teaching staff, administrative staff, and kitchen staff are actively working toward increasing their professional development and writing skills by completing CNM trainings/classes, engaging in assessment activities of their own work, and engaging in deep conversations about your children. Our kitchen staff continue to provide breakfast and lunch each day of the week and do this preparation mostly from scratch. Our bus drivers continue to deliver meals and educational supply packets throughout the week. Our custodial staff continue to disinfect and sanitize our program and will soon learn how to use disinfecting misters that were purchased with our CARES funding. As you can see, the HLC continues to thrive because of the competent and motivated HLC staff. Thank you for your continued support of the HLC and all the staff at our program.

Continue to be well and safe, KatieAnn Juanico, HLC Director

Happy Hall-oween from the FACE Program!

The Family and Child Education (FACE) Program is offering Virtual Prenatal-3 years old home-visiting services, a Preschool (ages 3-5) and virtual Adult Education courses for any Adult in the FACE family home!

Upcoming events

October FACE family circle: Enrolled FACE families will be mailed a fun and interactive slime activity. This activity will focus on strengthening visual motor skills, identifying colors, shapes and using their creative imagination with their parent/caregiver.



Certified Parent Educator Mrs. Judd reading a book virtually with a FACE family, focusing on "Bedtime" routines!

Mrs. Judd meets with FACE families once a week for 1 hour, while also sending home activity packets through the mail (during COVID-19), scheduling ASQ screenings, and helping Acoma families reach their Early Childhood Educational goals!





FACE children and families also received incentive "Spooky Baskets" filled with books and snacks for completing every visit for the month of October!

For more information about the FACE program contact
505-934-2144 or 505-934-1714!
FACE is located at the Haak'u Community

Academy

Haak'u Community Academy News

Guu waa dzii Families and Community Members,

May this time of harvest and thanksgiving be of good health and wellness. At Haak'u Community Academy we have completed our first quarter of school remotely. Since COVID-19 cases in the state are rising, our plan is to continue with at-home learning for the safety of our school



community. This decision involves input from staff, our families, the HCA School Board, the Governor and Tribal Council.

The end of the 1st quarter was October 16th and parent-teacher conferences are scheduled for Friday, October 23rd, a day without classes. Students and parents will log on to Google Meet to discuss overall progress with grade level expectations, and NWEA testing results for reading and math.

Recently, one major concern has been the proper use of the laptops and jetpacks. Just a reminder that all activity on these devices are tracked and internet data is limited. Video watching, gaming, and internet surfing uses quite a bit of the GB provided. If this occurs, the computers will slow down and will not work properly. The computers are for school purposes only and should be monitored by parents.

October highlights Red Ribbon week and Fire Prevention. Red Ribbon week is October 23rd – 30th with the theme "Be Happy, Be Brave, Be Drug Free." HCA wants to raise awareness about the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse and the importance of fire safety. Besides class discussions on these topics, the school will plan for four fun days of activities beginning on Tuesday, October 27th. Tuesday will be "Favorite T-Shirt/Sports Team Day," Wednesday- "Clan Day," Thursday- "Crazy Hair/ Pajama Day," and Friday will be "Halloween Dress Up Day." Be ready on Google Meet to share. Please check with your child's teacher for more information.

HCA's Student Assistance Team (SAT), consisting of teachers, the school counselor and the principal, meet bi-monthly to discuss students in need of extra assistance. When parents are invited to a meeting, the goal is to formulate a plan for student success in the area of academics, attendance, or behavior. The school counselor, or your child's teacher will contact you for an appointment, or you can call the school and speak with the principal.

Parents are doing a great job getting their children logged into their Google Meet classes. The students are really stepping up and showing their eagle spirit. Teachers overcome technical difficulties and stay focused on students, and their learning. There is a sense of pride in overcoming challenge amid these difficult circumstances. At HCA, during this Thanksgiving season we are grateful for the cooperative efforts within our school community.

Thank you - Daa waa ee,

Mrs. Edwina Trujillo, Principal M

Mrs. Veronica Perez, Instructional Coach

Reminders:

November 2- Late Start, PE Class will begin at 10:30 with 3rd grade.

November 23-27 - Thanksgiving Break

*Tutoring is available, contact the principal for more information 505-552-6671

If there are any problems with the computer, contact Marcus Leno at 934-6243. If there are problems with Google Classroom, contact Mr. Autrey, Mr. Peterson, or Mrs. Perez at 552-6671.

Available Scholarship Opportunities

Scholarships - Listed by Deadlines

- Pueblo of Acoma Community Endeavors Scholarship: December 4, 2020
 www.puebloofacoma.org/pace-scholarship-fund
- Acoma Higher Education: May 1, 2021 Fall

October 1, 2021 – Spring

◆ Acoma Education Foundation: May 1, 2021 – Fall

October 1, 2021 – Spring

www.puebloofacoma.org/Department_of_Education

Pueblo of Acoma Utility Authority Scholarship: January 8, 2021- Spring

June 4, 2021 – Summer

August 6, 2021 – Fall

www.puebloofacoma.org/pueblo-of-acoma-utility-authority-scholarship

- Full Circle Scholarship accepting Applications: January 1- May 31, 2021
 https://collegefund.org/student-resources/scholarships/scholarship-programs/
- Truman D. Picard Scholarship Deadline: March 12, 2021
 http://www.itcnet.org/about_us/scholarships.html
- Cobell Scholarship Undergraduate Deadline: March 30,2021 https://cobellscholar.academicworks.com/
- AISES Burlington Northern Santa Fe Foundation (BNSF) Deadline: TBA
 https://www.aises.org/scholarships/aises-burlington-north-santa-fe-bnsf-foundation-scholarship-2019-2020
- American Indian Education Fund Deadline: April 4, 2021
 http://www.nativepartnership.org
- Catching the Dream Deadlines: March 15, 2021 Summer

April 30, 2021 – Fall

September 15, 2021 - Winter

https://www.catchingthedream.org/

Available Scholarship Opportunities - Cont. Scholarships - Listed by Deadlines

American Indian Services Deadlines: June 1, 2021 – Fall

October 1, 2021 - Winter

https://www.americanindianservices.org/students/ais-scholarship/

American Indian Graduate Center:

https://www.aigcs.org/scholarships-fellowships/undergraduate-students

All Native American High School Academic Team Deadline: TBA

Wells Fargo American Indian Scholarship Deadline: TBA

Wells Fargo Scholarship for Undergraduates Deadline: TBA

Wilson-Hooper Veterinary Medicine Assistance Program Deadline: TBA

Accenture American Indian Scholarship Fund Deadline: TBA



ATTENTION COLLEGE STUDENTS



Scholarship Deadline Extension

First Time Applicants for the Acoma Higher Education Program

- Due Date for Applications: November 20, 2020
- Due Date for Supporting Documents: January 04, 2021

Continuing Applicants for the Acoma Higher Education Program

- Due Date for Application: November 20, 2020
- Due Date for Supporting Documents: January 04, 2021

All Applicants for the Pueblo of Acoma Education Funds

- Due Date for Application: November 20, 2020
- Due Date for Supporting Documents: January 04, 2021

If you have any questions or would like an application emailed to you please contact:

Joanie Sanchez jsanchez@poamail.org (505) 552-6077 Leslie M. Vallo Imvallo@poamail.org (505) 401-0016





HIGHER EDUCATION NEWS



Hello Everyone!

Through social media, text messaging, emails and in last month's newsletter we asked for college students to submit a picture of themselves along with their major and institution they currently attend.

We, the Acoma Department of Education are VERY proud to introduce "Our Acoma College Students" to the Acoma Community!! "Our Acoma College Students" are attending institutions both near and far from home. On the next couple of pages, you will find the pictures of the students along with their names and institutions they attend.

The Acoma Department of Education is aware that there are many more Acoma college students out there. We are working hard to track them down so they can be recognized for their academic achievements. If any community members are aware of other college students, please call Joanie Sanchez or Leslie Vallo at (505) 552-6077 or (505) 401-0016 or email jsanchez@poamail.org or lmvallo@poamail.org.

































Fort Lewis College

Kaitlin Victorino Political Science Minor in Pre-Law

Kelly Greenwell Marketing

Logan Aragon

Early Childhood Education

Rebecca Rose Lynn Ray Adventure Education Minor in Psychology

Juanita Patricio

Early Childhood Development

Lorenzo Siow

Computer Engineering

Mikayla Sarracino (photo not available) Criminology & Native American

Indigenous Studies

University of New Mexico

lan "Bunna" Lewis Business Administration Concentration in Organization Leadership

Lancerita Howeya

Nursing

KatieAnn Juanico

Doctoral Candidate EDPY

Anthony Garcia Psychology

Minor in Business

Taylia Vallo Psychology

Minor in Chemistry

Trevor Louis

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Carlos Perez (photo not available)

Biology

Aliyah Shutiva (photo not available)

Business Marketing/Administration

Colby Histia (photo not available)

Nursing

New Mexico State University

Keiana Chino Psychology

Minor in Sports Marketing

Emily Patricio

Early Childhood Development Minor in Child Advocacy Studies

Jolene Salvador General Business

Marissa Pasquale Social Work

Joanie Sanchez Undeclared

Hillary Louis Pre-Business

Kylie Patricio

Early Childhood Education

Brianne Chavez Nursing

Jorden J. Griffin Social Work

Malanie Garcia (photo not available) Bachelors of Science in Nursing

Melanie Patricio (photo not available) Applied Business

Colette Valdo (photo not available) Pre-Business

Saint Vincent College

Timothy Chavez

Bachelors in Business Management

Kansas University

Faynitta M. Marshall Early Childhood Education

University of Michigan's School of Music, Theatre and Dance

Bo Shimmin

Masters of Music in Voice

Performance

PIMA

Mari Chino

Medical Assistant

Western New Mexico University

Chantel Bryant Social Work

Central New Mexico

Monica Garcia Business

Johnica Antonio

Early Childhood Multicultural

Education

Cherisse J. Garcia Nursing Assistant

Brookline College

Jonah Chino

Associates in Criminal Justice

Chloe Felipe

Associate of Science -Allied Health

Ball State University

Ian Roesler English

Adam State University

Vanessa Davis

Sports Management

Trinidad State Junior College

Jasmine Kie Exercise Science

Southwestern Indian Polytechnic

Institute Miya Joe

Early Childhood Education

Eastern New Mexico University

Vincent Goodman

Biology w/Pre-Med Emphasis

New Mexico Highlands University

Bryanna Shroulote Social Work

Craig Garcia

Master's in Educational Leadership

Andrea Hepting (photo not available) Forestry

Rachel Riley (photo not available) Masters in Social Work

Concentration in Clinical Practice

Northern New Mexico College

MaryHelen Rock Bachelors of Business Administration

Northwest Indian College

Faron Tortalita TVR Certificate Program

Harvard University

Lorissa Garcia Masters in Higher Education

Bluefield College

Erin Hale Master of Science in Nursing

Haskell Indian Nations University

Kamrynn Concho Community Health

Northern Virginia Community College

Theodore Ortiz (photo not available)
Undeclared

San Juan College

Crystal O'Donnell (photo not available)
Business Administration

University of Phoenix

Carmen Vallo (photo not available)
Masters in Curriculum & Instruction

Columbia University

Angelia Manuelito
Evolutionary Biology of the Human Species

Institute of American Indian Arts

Elizabeth Lukee Studio Arts

Jasmine Felipe (photo not available) Indigenous Liberal Studies

Arizona State University

Eric DeLorme "Cia'yak" Master of Science in American Indian Studies

Kansas State University

Mercedes Trevino Sociology w/emphasis on Criminology



Kamrynn Concho HINU



Cherisse Garcia - CNM



Chantel Bryant WNMU



Anthony Garcia
UNM



Rebecca Ray FLC



Hillary Louis NMSU



Kaitlin Victorino - FLC



Johnica Antonio CNM



Marissa Pasquale NMSU







Monica Garcia CNM



MaryHelen Rock NNMC



Ian "Bunna" Lewis
UNM



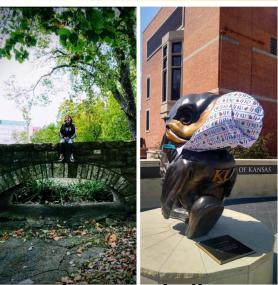
Joanie Sanchez NMSU



Erin Hale - BC



Trevor Louis - UNM



Faynitta Marshall - KU



Jorden Griffin NMSU



Brianne Chavez NMSU



Vanessa Davis



Lorenzo Siow - FLC

ASU



Kylie Patricio - NMSU



Logan A<mark>ragon - FLC</mark>



Emily Patricio - NMSU



Bryanna Shroulote - NMHU



Taylia Vallo - UNM



Jolene Salvador NMSU



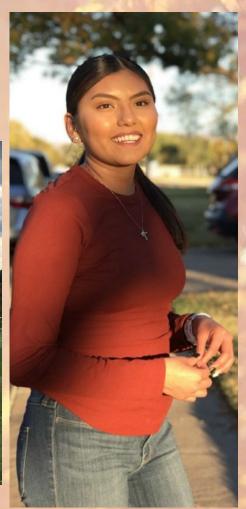
Craig Garcia - NMHU



Lancerita Howeya
UNM



Timothy Chavez—SVC



Miya Joe - SIPI



Eric DeLorme - ASU



Mercedes Trevino - KSU



Keiana Chino -NMSU



Kelly Greenwell - FLC



Jasmine Kie TSJC



Ian Roesler BSU



Vincent Goodman
ENMU



Jonah Chino - BC



Bo Shimmin - SMTD



Faron Tortalita - NWIC



KatieAnn Juanico - UNM



Chole Felipe - BC



Elizabeth Lukee IAIA



Mari Chino - PIMA



Lorissa Garcia HU

Dza guuma Aak'uume dzeeni yaatradza?

We received praise, words of success and encouragement for our first language seminar. Thank you to all those who shared their stories, their wisdom, and knowledge with us.

Haaku Learning Center and Haaku Community Academy teachers gave input on teaching methodologies. Marietta Juanico shared ideas of teaching styles, teaching babies and toddlers. Tracey Charlie talked about her programs at the Library and Nolan Valdo also shared some of his work while at the Library.

Darwin Valdo gave a presentation on the Language Project, how, who and why this project started. To date we have collected about 13,000 words and phrases and are on our third editing of the dictionary.

Brandon Valdo gave a presentation on Spanish influence of our language. How Spanish words crept into our language mentioning the fact that a lot of items like furniture, food and animals which did not exist in North America were brought here by the Spaniards and the other Europeans and therefore had to be named.

Dr. Velma Garcia Mason showed slides of the usage of words, especially the usage of verbs, past, present and future. She also had slides of pronunciation of words.

Joe Aragon's presentation focused on having more self confidence in yourself by knowing who you are, which all comes from the knowledge of language and culture. He presented a good case for more post high school STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) studies.

Floyd Tortalita presented his knowledge of song and dance stating that without the knowledge and meanings of song and dance, it is just motions without meanings.

Fred Vallo's presentation focused on community empowerment, how he learned from cleaning farming areas, ditch work and Acoma church work. "We learn from each other" and encouraged people to start working together again, especially when COVID restrictions are lifted.

Kurt Riley reflected on his upbringing as a half Acoma-half Laguna growing up off reservation and how he acknowledged his identity as Acoma and how and why he learned to speak the Acoma language. Being comfortable with your self instills self-confidence and self-assurance.

Dr. Chris Sims spoke about her role in bringing the Keres Language programs into the community and into our schools. She was pleased that some of those efforts are still being used and encourage everyone involved to continue the work.

Again, we would like to thank all the participants and the attendees for providing us insight and awareness to the Seminar title: Dza guuma Aak'ume dzeeni yaatradza? Our language and culture are valuable because it states who we are, where we come from, where we need to go and where we need to be.

Thank you to all the people who sent in their comments, questions, and suggestions. They will all be taken into consideration by the Keres Language Group.

Aak'ume dzeeni -sai dzii haak'u sru'uu tranishi, etyee nii'eu dyawa srkuu'uma'anishi

Also, thank you Thor, Angelia and Marissa for your technical assistance!

Rebecca Martin

Language Program Coordinator

ACOMA LEARNING CENTER

PUBLIC LIBRARY & COMPUTER CENTER





Online, at Full Speed

The online environment has allowed us to be more versatile in approaching our cultural and language courses. We can reach Acoma members on the reservation and extend our services across the country. We had initially begun online teaching with trial runs with our language classes back in the summer of 2019. Now with the recent pandemic, we have gone digital! Currently, we have two language classes (beginner & intermediate), Moccasin Making, Youth Mobile Filmmaking Program (with Apple & Mr. Jon Sims, No Reservation Productions).

We will be starting up a sewing and drum making class in November. We have completed the Niu te mah gu (Gardening Project), Pueblo Embroidery, Nah beh du wii mish (Crocheting stocking), and moccasin making. We also created two digital online resources for language & culture for adults & children. We will continue to grow this platform and explore better methods to provide services to our Acoma people.













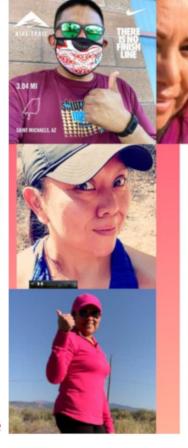
Lorraine Vallo
Geri Gaska
Carmen Lewis
Marie Juanico
Phyllis Armjilo
Sandra Victorino
Marilyn Ray
Mary Victorino

Save the Ta Tas Virtual Walk & 5K Challenge

October was breast cancer awareness month, and this year was a little different for us. We hosted a virtual awareness walk and 5k Challenge. Participants joined the event by walking or running at their preferred location.

We want to send a huge thank you to Lorraine Vallo (Breast Cancer Survivor) & Family for donating the prizes for the 5k Challenge & drawing. May your family receive so much in return and always be blessed.

ACT NOW! Early detection helps to save lives. Breast cancer education and screening can save up to 37 lives every day in the U.S., according to the World Health Organization. Females and males should not skip annual breast exams, especially ones over age 40.



SAVETHETATAS. 2020 5K CHALLENGE

RUNNERS

1st Place - Ian Lewis - 20:25 2nd Place - Charles Atsye - 20:35 3rd Place - Deanna Aragon - 28:55 4th Place - Allison Vallo - 29:41 5th Place - Anissa Poncho - 30:17 6th Place - Deloris Juanico - 37:37 7th Place - Lynette Charlle - 52:25 8th Place - Cheryl Wanya - 57:56

Eric Vallo - No Time Audrey Martinez - No Time





MOBILE FILMMAKING

October 16th, the Acoma Learning Center partnered with We Make Movie (WMM) and Mr. Jon Sims, No Reservation Production, to introduce mobile filmmaking to our Acoma students. Students will be learning the art of filmmaking using Apple products, such as iPhone or iPad. The program is a six-week course where participants will interact with professional filmmakers from across the country and local New Mexican filmmakers.

The program is designed to help students learn the basic concepts of producing, editing, and developing essential skills to create films. Not only will students be introduced to professionals but other students across the country. We are very fortunate to bring this program to the Acoma Pueblo because it is the only one in the state of New Mexico.



We are currently CLOSED -Due to a High-Risk Environment

<u>CONTACT US</u> (505)552-5160 - Office (505)331-8151 - Mobile (505)552-9613 - Fax alc@poamail.org - Email





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.

P-EBT Update

Please help spread the word: The NM Human Services Department has established the Yes New Mexico portal where parents and School Food Authorities (SFAs) can now access student information on the Pandemic-EBT program. Through the portal, parents and SFAs can look up their students' information and validate, update or change their address or request a new P-EBT card. A student ID number and some additional identifying data are required for access. This flier includes instructions for accessing the YesNM portal.

Please share it with families involved with P-EBT along with the link: https://www.yes.state.nm.us/yesnm/home/index

THUTFORS AND AND LABOR.

If you are a student or have a student who is in need of tutoring services please call (505) 934-4937.

