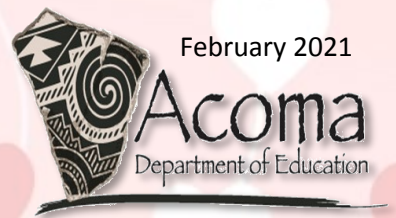


February Newsletter

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 Acoma Community,

A new year has approached us and hope all are doing well. As we continue to move forward with this pandemic, we need to continue to be strong role models for each other, for the youth, and to make our parents, grandparents proud. To keep working on our studies in all areas, especially take advantage of the teachings in our language. Make use of the tools to continue learning how to navigate social media and the electronic systems needed to achieve, and communicate. Be creative when solving problems, utilize the resources provided, and reach out for assistance when needed. Continue to share information and knowledge with one another. Continue to attend school, be prepared and stay motivated to succeed.

With an announcement made on Tuesday, January 26th, about the eligibility for expansion of in-person learning beginning February 8th by The Office of the New Mexico State Governor; many of you are most likely wondering, what does that mean for the Pueblo of Acoma?

Currently the Board of Education continues to abide by Acoma Pueblo's Tribal Administration Executive Order: Stay at Home. Our tribal community schools (HLC and HCA) and those students that attend the Grants-Cibola County school district schools will continue to engage in Remote Learning, until Amendments are made by the Pueblo of Acoma, based on public health and safety for the community.

We are committed to helping our Acoma children and other community members to have a safe school year. Continue to stay safe, wash your hands and practice social distancing. We invite you to join the Parent & Community Follow-Up Forum once a month to get updated information. The forum is lived streamed on Facebook and you can also join in on the Zoom meeting app.

Best,

Acoma Board of Education

Guu waa dzii Hello Families,

During these uncertain times, one thing we love here at Haak'u Community Academy is the at home learning support we are receiving from our families. Students continue to log in to their classes on a regular basis. For those who struggle with connectivity, please contact the principal.



Our staff have been obtaining vaccinations for the virus. Of course, there is still a chance of catching the virus even after vaccinations, however, the risk of severe illness is greatly reduced. Reopening the school will be done in steps and the plan will be based on the Pueblo's health restriction timelines. The data shows some increase in positivity rates in 0-10 year olds.

We acknowledge and appreciate our tribal officials. Thank you Governor Vallo, Tribal Council, and Tribal Religious leaders for your service and prayers. Your commitment and sacrifice are appreciated, and we remain hopeful with your leadership. May God always protect you and keep you safe.

January was the start of the 3rd quarter and 2nd semester. The students were eager to see each other again. School staff are aware of students' social-emotional needs and include opportunities for students to talk to one other online. They were encouraged to attend ADoE's Virtual Youth Social Group online as a way to meet others and be connected.

The schoolwide spelling bee was held virtually on our Google Meet platform. Sixteen students were excited and very serious about their participation. The bee lasted about an hour and half for a total of 15 rounds. Two students will move on to compete at the district level remotely. Adriel Shields, 3rd grade was the 2nd place winner and Sianalee Chavez, 6th grade, finished as our 1st place champion. Normally, our school sends 10 students to the next level in Grants, however, several schools canceled due to the pandemic. As a result, the number of participants were reduced and the competition moved from the district level to a regional competition. Congratulations to all our HCA students, and we wish best of luck to Sianalee and Adriel!



Coming up next is the Battle of Books! Mr. Myers and Mrs. Vargas sponsor this activity where students in grades 4th -8th read 10-15 books before the end of April.

Placed in teams with students from other schools, students try to name book titles and authors based on the hints provided. Please encourage your child to participate. What a great activity for learning more about the world through reading.

Monitoring student progress is essential for designing learning experiences. Kindergarten through 2nd students completed their literacy foundations test called DIBELS. In addition, during the first weeks of February, our school will have completed the middle of year NWEA MAPS benchmark test. The students should do these tests without help. Student growth reports will be shared with parents during conference time on February 12th. If you have questions, please contact your child's teacher.

Once again, it must be said how grateful we are to our tribal officials, our families, and our school community for their support. We must continue to work together for the success of our students. If you have any questions, please contact Principal, Edwina Trujillo 934-0888 or IT/ technology, Marcus Leno, 934-6243.

Respectfully,

Mrs. Veronica Perez, Instructional Coach and Mrs. Edwina Trujillo, Principal

Important Reminders:

January 19- February 11: NWEA MOY testing window

February 2 – Groundhog Day

February 12 – Parent Teacher Conferences/
Chines New Year

February 14- Valentine's Day

February 15- No School, Presidents' Day

February 24- School Bus Driver Appreciation Day

News from Haak'u Learning Center

Happy February ADOE students and families! I trust that all of you are continuing to adjust to learning and teaching from home. Like many of you, I find myself becoming less patient with being home and am eagerly waiting for the day to be back into the swing of seeing and enjoying the physical company of colleagues, friends, and even my family. As I was scrolling through social media, I came upon a meme that really emphasized how I was feeling about 2021. The meme stated, "I think it's cute how everyone thinks 2021 is going to be better than 2020...I really like that for us." Even though we are well into a new year, I came to the realization that we are still in a pandemic and that we wouldn't be able to quickly transition back to the way things were before. As we continue to learn and work safely from home, I am hopeful that we can all continue enhancing what we are already doing with our Learn-at-Home Models.

Now that we are about six months into the Learn-at-Home model at the Haak'u Learning Center (HLC), we have begun adding classroom zoom sessions, implementation of a Remote Attendance Policy, and gathering assessment data. I am pleased to share that even our toddlers enrolled in our Child Care classrooms have begun participating in zoom sessions. As our teaching staff continue to adjust their teaching techniques to fit the remote environment, our families are also learning new technology skills. At the HLC, we have children who are being supported by parents, guardians, grandparents, older siblings, in-home providers, and other family members. Our families are becoming more engaged and active in their children's learning by assisting in zoom sessions and assessing their own children. I am happy to announce that we have also begun Keres zoom sessions for all our classrooms. Our Keres zoom sessions are proving to be popular and it is comforting to hear our older turtle school children say our morning prayer through zoom.

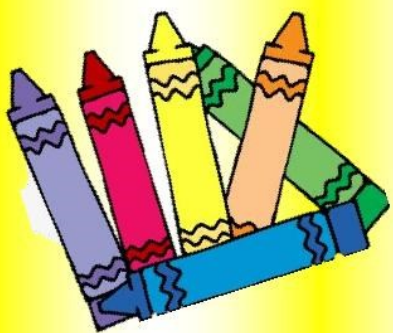
As we continue to add to our Learn-at-Home Model, I want to encourage families to continue to ask for help and continue to encourage your children to attend the zoom sessions. Our program has a goal to begin adding in lessons to our zoom sessions that will support our children and families as we prepare to transition to regular school routines. Please begin speaking to your children about returning to school and returning to school routines. For more information, please reach out to your classroom teachers. Continue to be well and safe,

KatieAnn Juanico.

Give your Child a
HEAD START



with the
Family and Child Education (FACE)
Home-Visiting & Head Start Program!



Now Recruiting Children
Ages: Birth-4 Years

Children Services

- Virtual Home-Visits & Classroom Instruction
- Health Screenings
- Ages & Stages (ASQ) Screenings
- Engaging Activities
- Structured Schedule
- Free Books & Incentives

Parent Services

- Parent Activities
- Parent Education Courses
- Community Resources
- Free Monthly Incentives



For more information please contact us!

(505)-934-2144 or (505)-934-1714

Located at the Haak'u Community Academy, Pueblo of Acoma, NM.

ACOMA LANGUAGE PROGRAM

Guuw'azii hauba, gai dawaa tru drai draskra.

Success begins with a dream. We dream what we want out of life or what kind of successful life we would like to have. Success is when we have reached that goal; when we learn responsibility, think positively and learn how to overcome hurdles and bumps in the road. And, a lot of prayer and support from friends and family often plays a major role in achieving those goals.

We dream of success for many different situations in our lives. Learning Keres and being able to speak conversational is a success.

Some beginning phrases might include:

Aak'uu'me tyi da?

Aak'uu'me sɛda I am Acoma

guw'aaesra? what is your name?

t'iitra eesa my name is Spring

dzii hanu kɛda? what is your clan? (on your mother's side)

dyaami hanu sɛda I am eagle clan

dzii washt'i kɛda? what clan child are you? (on your father's side)

haapani hanu sɛda I am an oak clan child

haadi kɛdrau'u? where do you live?

diichəna sa'au I live in Acomita

To be successful, we first need positive self identity, we need to know who we are, where we come from and our surroundings. Being Acoma might be more complicated than one might assume. We in fact, live two different lifestyles, one being able to survive in the "Western" world and the other is to maintain our existence as traditional Acoma people. In the "Western" world, we earn a living by working, we pay our bills, we educate our children by sending them to school. In our "Traditional Keres World", we make our way through life by living the life left to us by our ancestors.

Our language and culture existed before the "Western" world entered this country. We all spoke our language and followed our traditions. This way of life existed for hundreds of years and continues today. Nothing tells us we cannot be fluent again. We have some hurdles and stumbling blocks, but we can overcome.

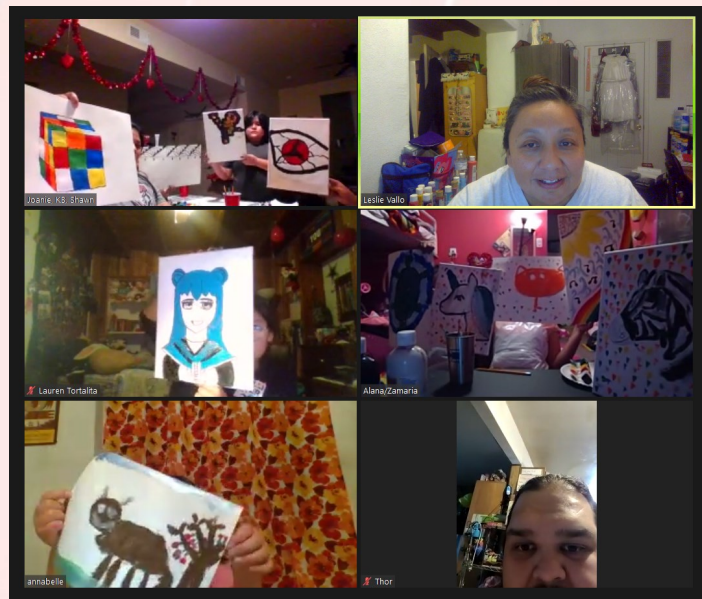
Success is when we have reached self worth with dignity -- and we can do that.

Rebecca Victorino Martin

Language Project Coordinator

Virtual Youth Social Group

The ADoE Virtual Youth Social Group has been a great experience!!! The students have shared many laughs, support, encouragement and great talent with one another. Together we have had different game nights, cookie baking, painting , conversations and sharing of ideas ! Our Acoma students are awesome! We will continue with the Virtual Youth Social Group—all students from the ages 5-18 are welcome to join. If you have any questions please call (505) 401-0016 or (505) 285-0166.





VIRTUAL YOUTH SOCIAL GROUP

Ages 5 - 18

Every Wednesday in February 2021

02/10, 02/17, & 02/24



6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Join Zoom Meeting



Meeting ID: 990 7649 5368

***Virtual Activities Passcode: 958865**

***Support**

***Encouragement**

***Motivation**



Acoma Department of Education and Acoma Leadership
Development Initiative

Looking for:

-Tutors for grades K-12

-Cultural teachers

All sessions will be virtual.

**Ask Thor Peterson for more details. Or
have individuals call at 505-934-4937, or
email inquiries at**

t.peterson@haakuca.org