

# April 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,

I hope that each of you are doing well. We just hit a milestone in this pandemic with one year of virtual education and support services. It has not been easy and we continue to find new ways to teach, learn, and support our students and community.

As we continue to wrap up another school year there are so many things to consider. How will we celebrate the end of the year? Will we go back to school in person or online? What can we do this summer? Ah, yes. So much to think about but we cannot positively and factually state that any in-person learning will happen next year or summer events will take place especially without everyone continuing to wearing their masks, social distancing, and avoiding large gatherings. It is a difficult time for everyone and I am most focused on our students, of all ages. As students begin to close out another school year and enter a new one – consider talking to your school-aged children about expectations that will be placed on them such as 1) getting up earlier, 2) doing homework on time and before due dates, 3) being around other students if we go back to in-person, and 4) becoming familiar with school rules, to name a few. Reintroductions back to school is going to take some time especially for our preschool and kindergarten students so everyone should take some time to talk about school and being in a classroom. When possible, take your student for a ride to the school or call your school principal and ask for a virtual meeting to find out more about COVID-safe practices or any other questions that help put your mind at ease.

Tis' the season for old and new traditions at the Department. We are preparing for our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual college fair that will take place in a virtual setting. We still want our students to get as much information as possible about college and career choices. But I also want to let parents and family know that it's okay if your student wants to enter the workforce instead of going directly to college or vocational school. It is important to let students make their decision about what feels right for them at this time, work or school. Sometimes students thrive post-secondary after they have had work experience that can guide their next steps in adulthood. Being a mother and grandmother, I suggest that if your student chooses to go to college and away from home then there are some friendly reminders that I want to repeat. Please support your students time away to grow as a young adult by encouraging them to stay at school. Their time away from you and the community is a sacrifice they are making for their future. Students increase their likelihood of success when they commit time and attention to their studies when their support systems have consistent messages of staying at school, 'you will be home before you know it', 'we miss you too but everyone is okay and will see you soon'. Send care packages that include your student's favorite items and write an old-fashioned letter or send a card with some words of encouragement, happiness, and excitement.

As we begin to move into closing out another school year, I want to extend a sincere word of appreciation for our teachers, assistants, and child care providers. Their work with infants to school-aged students is positively impacting the lives of everyone by staying the course and leading young minds to greater possibilities. Please take some time to thank a teacher, assistant, or child care provider. We need them now and more than ever.

Finally, the Keres Language Program is setting a high mark by closing out our notorious Administration for Native Americans Grant by preparing the finishing touches to the on-line dictionary. Although we had an appealing online dictionary and social media application, we still had some words to add, edit, and revise. The new version of the dictionary will be a password protected site with some new features that include lesson plans for schools and students and a whole lot more. Look for more information in future editions of the newsletter. Take care, be safe and follow the Pueblo of Acoma Executive Orders and any other State COVID requirements. Our return back to some sense of normalcy is depending on all of us.

Until next time,  
Melissa E. Riley, PhD  
Executive Director



# **News from Haak'u Community Academy**

**Guu waa dzii! Greetings! April Newsletter**



**Happy Springtime! There's excitement in the air. For those who enjoy gardening, it's time to prepare the land for crop planting. With brisk springtime breezes and hopefully some rain, April is also a time of renewal during the Easter season. At Haak'u Community Academy, the staff continues to prepare for the possibility of re-opening. In March "No-Contact Lunch" delivery has resumed for our students. Just a reminder, if no one comes to retrieve the lunches, it will not be left behind on porches. As for the school calendar, March 12 was the last day of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter and report cards were sent in the mail. All concerns regarding your child's grades, behavior, and attendance should be addressed with the classroom teacher and school principal. Every effort has been made to keep parents informed of student progress and upcoming events, such as lesson topics and learning activities. Teachers are asking for parents to check their child's Google Classroom and Google Email every day for correspondence and other notices. Of course, phone calls and text messages sent between 7:30 A.M. and 6:00 P.M., are other ways to obtain needed information. As for student academic performance, students do a great job of logging in and participating in class discussions. In fact, there are students who have had perfect attendance since the beginning of this school year. We would like to recognize these students for their commitment and dedication to learning. It's been a tough year overall with technology and the COVID-19 pandemic. We realize at-home learning is extremely challenging at times and not always easy for everyone, so thank you families for your patience and perseverance.**

**Good Attendance Recognition- Below is a list of students who did not miss one whole day of school for the past three quarters. With one more quarter of school left, all students are encouraged to attend regularly and finish strong! Make sure everyone spends at least 30 minutes to one hour reading nightly.**

**Kindergarten: Christopher Lewis, Avalyn Lorenzo, Davien Martinez, Payton Willie 1<sup>st</sup> Grade: Julianna Aragon 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Jaily Carr, Gabriella Concho, Liam Lewis, Lefty Patricio, Carrie Sarracino, Daphne Waconda 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade: Annabelle Garcia, Kendall Garcia, Kaylee Juanico, Olivia Sanchez, Adriel Shields, Bailee Siow, Christopher Vicente-Lorenzo, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Ashleigh Lewis 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Nannette Chino, Sean Chino, Kaylynn Concho, Layla Patricio, Joshua Sarracino, Vayden Vallo 6<sup>th</sup> Grade: Tori Felipe, Kristi-Anna Shroulote, Kendall Siow, Madison Siow 7<sup>th</sup> Grade: Peyton Felipe, Lucas Martinez, Rodney Pino, Khalia-Mae Shroulote 8<sup>th</sup> Grade: Neil Garcia, Curtis Paytiammo**

**Another achievement is Sianalee Chavez's participation in the New Mexico State Spelling Bee competition held on March 20<sup>th</sup> virtually. When asked about her experience she responded via text, "I prepared for the bee by studying hard and encouraging myself to keep going and not giving up. The spelling bee was different from last year because we didn't get to go in person and we got to do the spelling bee at our own time, instead of all together." She wants to recognize her mom, Samantha Martinez for her support. After competing remotely against other students in the Southwest region, she succeeded in becoming one of the two regional representatives which is usually held at Sandia Prep in Albuquerque. Sianalee, congratulations once again! This is the second time one of our students qualified for the state spelling bee.**

**Mrs. Perez,  
Instructional Coach**

**Mrs. Edwina Trujillo,  
Principal 505-934-0888**

**Gil Sanchez,  
Education Program Administrator**

**Haak'u Community Academy 505-552-6671, Technical Issues contact Marcus Leno, 505-934-6243**

**Reminders: Friday April 2, 2021 – No School, Good Friday & Wednesday, April 22, 2021- 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Progress Reports**

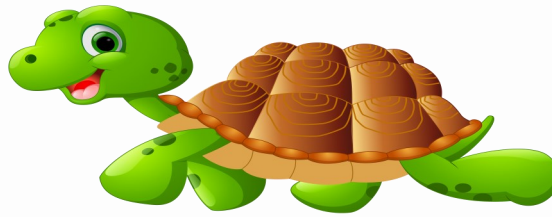




# Haak'u Learning Center News

April 2021

KatieAnn Juanico



Hello families,

March has come and gone but the Haak'u Learning Center (HLC) continues to make big steps as we begin to wrap up the 2020-21 school year. In the month of March, many of the major leaps that happened involve upgrades and restorations to the HLC. The HLC will soon be 20 years old and like everything else, is starting to show it's age. Some of you may know that our center has quite a bit of roof leaks and has needed roof repairs for quite some time. Although we do not get much precipitation, we have had enough to damage the inside walls of some classrooms. I am pleased to say that the roof repair project began on March 22, 2021 and is expected to be completed later this month. The HLC is thankful to the tribe for helping to fund this project so that all our present and future HLC students and families can enjoy the benefits. Once the roof is repaired, the HLC can focus on fixing the interior damage in the classrooms.

Another major project that started is the installation of automatic faucets and sinks throughout the building. While creating the HLC re-entry plan, the HLC considered large expenses that would help us further reduce the spread of COVID-19. In addition to installing automatic faucets and sinks, the HLC has installed automatic paper towel dispensers, automatic sanitizer wall mounts and free standing dispensers, 20 second hand washing timers, and will soon be installing automatic soap dispensers. The HLC has also increased the number of hand washing areas in each of the Head Start and two (2) child care classrooms. These upgrades will not only help reduce the spread of COVID-19 but will also help reduce the spread of all diseases that are commonly spread in Early Childhood Centers.

As the HLC continues to prepare for re-entry of our students and full re-entry of our staff, we continue to build our anticipation of being reignited with all the children. During the month of March, I had one-to-one conversations with all our teachers. It was evident during those conversations that the teachers continue to miss the children and are mentally ready to transition back to the classroom. Although I still do not know when that will be, please know that the HLC will continue to immerse ourselves in our re-entry plan. The month of April will be heavily focused on learning more about the Hybrid Model. More information for families will soon be coming...stay tuned!

Continue to be well and stay safe,

KatieAnn Juanico, HLC Director



APPLY NOW

# WIOA News

APPLY NOW



## Workforce Development Program

# Looking For Work, Training, Or A College Education

### If you are an Adult or Youth:

Native American of a federally recognized tribe living on or near the Acoma Reservation looking to get trained, gain employment experience, or educational services, you may qualify for our program.

Please bring the following documents when returning your application for WIOA services. This information will be used in the eligibility determination process.

### Required Documents:

- Proof of Age (Tribal, State or Federal Document)
- Valid State of New Mexico Drivers License or ID
- Social Security Card (Original)
- Certificate of Indian Blood
- Proof of Income for household member (past 6 months) individual or family household income (may include self-employment earning records, receipt of public assistance and disability benefits).
- Selective Service Registration (Male's Only)
- Proof of Residence (Physical & Mailing) within the Pueblo of Acoma (Contact Tribal Administration Support Staff)
- High School Diploma or GED Certificate
- If you are applying for educational support (i.e.: Associates Degree, Vocational Certificate, or Adult Basic Education or GED) a list of additional required documents will be given to upon application submittal.
- Grades for Students attending school



Department of Education-WDP  
P.O. Box 307  
Pueblo of Acoma,, NM 87034  
On the Web :  
[www.puebloofacoma.org/  
Workforce\\_Investment\\_Act](http://www.puebloofacoma.org/Workforce_Investment_Act)

Nolan P. Valdo  
Phone: 505-552-6077 ext. 5136  
Fax: 505-552-6812  
E-mail: [nvaldo@poamail.org](mailto:nvaldo@poamail.org)



# Keres Language Group News

Guuw'aadzi hauba, gaidawa trədraidraaska

Happy t'iitra (Spring), to all. Soon the sh'amə (wild parsley) will be sprouting, your walks can result in a delicious meal.

Last month we looked at words/phrases which need additional words to fit the description such as the word "ain'ə" which means a location downward. This word "ain'ə" is actually made up of two words; ai meaning there; n'ə meaning down and it comes from the word "n'əgami" (down)

Much like the English language we have singular, dual and plural words and phrases.

dzuuku - he/she went, left (one person went, left)

ts'eeyu - they went, left (two people went, left)

dze'eku - they went, left (more than two people went, left)

cha'aidze - he/she went to bed (one person went to bed)

cha'aidzim'ətyə - they went to bed (two people went to bed)

cha'datra - they went to bed (more than two people went to bed)



We use singular, dual and plural words, phrases and sentences when addressing or talking to people.

chuguiya - to tell one person to sit down

chuguiyanatyə - to tell two people to sit down

cha'aata - to tell more than two people to sit

There are words which are singular and words which are both dual and plural such as:

chupe - telling one person to eat

dra'ape - telling more than one person to eat

kuppe- one person ate

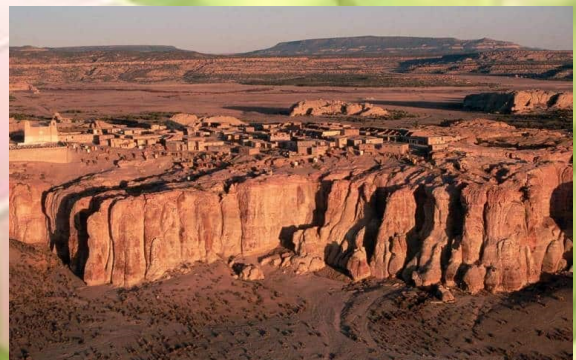
gaa'ape - more than one person ate

ga'au - lady addressing one sister

ga'autiitra - lady addressing more than one sister

dyumə - man addressing one brother

dyumətiitra - man addressing more than one brother



From the Language Group, "happy t'iitra to all, we welcome the new vegetation and renewal of all things".

Rebecca Martin

# Family and Child Education (FACE) Program



Get your child blooming with  
the Family and Child Education  
(FACE)

Home-Visiting & Head Start  
Program

**NOW ENROLLING**

Children ages Birth - 4 Years

**Children and Parent Services Provided**

## Children Services

Virtual Visits

(Home -visits & Preschool)

Health Screenings

Ages & Stages (ASQ) Screenings

Engaging Activities

FREE Books & Incentives

For more information please contact us (505) 934-2144 or  
(505) 934-1714.

We are located at the Haak'u Community Academy.

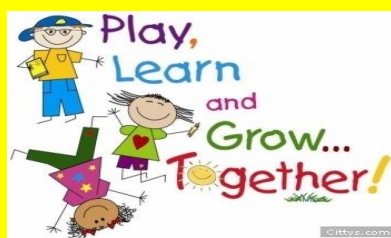
## Parent Services

Parent Activities

Parent Education

Community Resources

FREE Monthly Incentives





# ADoE Scholarship Deadline Dates

## **First Time Applicants for the Acoma Higher Education Program**

Due Date for Applications: **May 1, 2021**

Due Date for Supporting Documents: **July 1, 2021**

## **Continuing Applicants for the Acoma Higher Education Program**

Due Date for Application: **June 1, 2021**

Due Date for Supporting Documents: **July 1, 2021**

## **All Applicants for the Pueblo of Acoma Education Funds**

Due Date for Application: **May 1, 2021**

Due Date for Supporting Documents: **July 1, 2021**

**If you have any questions or would like an application emailed to you**

**please contact Leslie M. Vallo or Joanie Sanchez**

**at (505) 401-0016 or (505) 285-0166**

**Email: [lmvallo@poamail.org](mailto:lmvallo@poamail.org) or [jsanchez@poamail.org](mailto:jsanchez@poamail.org)**



**APPLY NOW**





## Program Information

As part of honoring and embracing leadership and education, corn POLLEN was utilized by Southwestern tribes in recognition of the outstanding leadership attributes of tribal members, and to pray for all living things, as well as educational success and persistence.

Recognizing the importance of pathways to community and educational leadership, the University of New Mexico is pleased to announce the POLLEN program. Funded by, and in partnership with the New Mexico Legislature, the POLLEN Program is designed to increase the number of licensed school administrators serving Native American students throughout the state of New Mexico.

The Educational Leadership Program at the University of New Mexico is actively recruiting our fourth cohort of eligible educators in Native American serving schools who hold an MA degree to pursue their Administrative Licensure. Those admitted to the cohort will receive a stipend covering tuition, books, and technology fees in this accelerated pathway to licensure.

The anticipated cohort start date is Summer 2021. Required coursework will be specifically designed to prepare future principals to be responsive to the needs of Native communities throughout the State of New Mexico. All courses will be delivered through a blended online/face-to-face format to ensure access to communities throughout the state, and will center on Native American leadership, vision, epistemology, and culture in addressing current issues in Native American education.



## Eligibility Requirements

You are eligible to apply to this program if you meet the following criteria:

- 1) Possess a valid Level IIA or IIIA New Mexico Teaching license
- 2) Masters degree from a regionally accredited college/university.
- 3) Native American and interested in becoming a licensed school administrator.
- 4) Commit to serving as a school administrator in a Bureau funded school or district predominantly serving Native American students.

## Program of Study

By participating in this program, students will be required to complete the following courses for New Mexico Administrative licensure and earn an Educational Specialist Certificate (24 credit hours):

- LEAD 503 – Data Informed Instructional Leadership (3 hours)
- LEAD 509 – Leadership and Organizational Change (3 hours)
- LEAD 521 – School Finance and Resource Management (3 hours)
- LEAD 560 – Instructional Leadership and Development (3 hours)
- LEAD 561 – Legal Issues for School Leaders (3 hours)
- LEAD 596 - Administrative Internship (6 hours)
- LEAD 520 - School Principalship ( 3 hours)

*"The good thing about our professors is they're keeping in mind that we're from Native Schools and serving Native populations so that helps us directly when we go back to our school after we achieve licensure."*

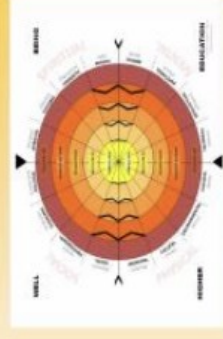
—Pollen Cohort 1 Member



## Benefits and POLLEN Success

Our unique POLLEN program offers the following benefits and success milestones from 3 previous cohorts which include the following:

- A stipend to be used toward tuition, and technology fees.
- The opportunity to complete coursework for the New Mexico Administrative License in four semesters with indigenous based curriculum.
- Mentorship and support from UNM POLLEN program faculty prior to, throughout, and after the conclusion of the program.
- The establishment of a professional network of fellow school leaders committed to improving Native American education within and beyond the State of New Mexico.
- 97% On time Completion Rate
- 96% Licensure Test Pass Rate—1st Attempt
- 87% Placement in Leadership Position
- 87.5 % Retention as a principal or assistant principal.





### Meet Our Faculty:

- Dr. Shawn Secatero, (Canoncito Band of Navajo), Associate Professor, and POLLEN Coordinator (505) 277-6018 (sssecater@unm.edu)
- Dr. Allison Borden, Professor, (aborden@unm.edu)
- Dr. Russ Romans, Lecturer III, (ruromans@unm.edu)
- Dr. Patrick Lopez, Educational Leadership Program Coordinator (plopez5@unm.edu)
- Dr. William "Toby" Holmes, (Choctaw) (wtholmes@unm.edu)

### Application

Students admitted into the POLLEN program must meet all requirements for admission into the University and the College of Education Educational Leadership program. UNM College of Education faculty will provide hands-on guidance and support for candidates that meet the required qualifications.

### Requirements:

- Submit a UNM Graduate School Admissions Packet Website: [www.unm.edu/apply](http://www.unm.edu/apply)
- Contact : Mary Hooper, UNM TEELP Program Educational Support; 505-277-0513 or [TEELP@unm.edu](mailto:TEELP@unm.edu)

### IMPORTANT DATES:

Call for Applications: November 1, 2020  
 Application Packet Deadline: April 1, 2021  
 Review of Applications: April 1-15, 2021  
 ZOOM Interviews for finalists: April 15-30, 2021  
 Acceptance Notifications: May 1, 2021  
 ZOOM Orientation: To be announced in May  
 On-line Instruction begins: June 7, 2021

## Indigenous Educational Leadership

College of Education



**POLLEN:**  
 Promoting  
 our  
 Leadership,  
 Learning &  
 Empowering  
 our Nations

" This program [POLLEN Program] will move mountains in relation to supporting student success. Knowing where you come from as an Indigenous educator within the community, you know exactly the demographic perception, achievement, and process data that you are working with. Adding the mixture of the 16 pillars of well-being in regard to student's well-being, you know the walk of life they come from. Data is not only assessment numbers, but with all forms of assessments we do on a daily basis. This program has reignited my flame to stand up, speak for, and push for equality for education for ALL of our students, for they are our future and most treasured profession." - POLLEN Alumni (McREL International p. 43)



The University of New Mexico

Educational Leadership Program



Promoting Our Leadership,  
 Learning and Empowering

our Nations (POLLEN)

COHORT FIVE

Administrator

Licensure Program for

Native American Serving

Schools in New Mexico



Funded by the N.M. Legislature  
 House Bill 13



# Attention Kids!!



TRUE KIDS 1

## SPRING CLUBS

Register for all clubs at [truekids1.org](http://truekids1.org)



### PBS Reporting Lab



Dates: 4/06, 4/13, 4/20, 4/27, 5/4, 5/11

Time: Tuesdays 3pm-4pm

*Meetings will be held virtually.*



### TK1 Filmmaking Club

Dates: 3/30, 4/06, 4/13, 4/27, 5/04, 5/11

Time: 3:30pm-4:30pm

*Meetings will be held virtually.*



### Python Coding Club

Dates: 4/7, 4/14, 4/21, 4/28, 5/6

Time: 2-3pm

*Meetings will be held virtually.*



### Saturday Sunset Drone Club

Dates: 4/3, 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 5/1, 5/8

Time: 5-6pm

*Clubs are free to join.*