## May 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 each of you are doing well and ready for warmer weather. As we move along with another season, it is without saying that this has been over a year in dealing with the pandemic. Things seem to get better with time but yet some kind of sadness in not being with loved ones or doing the things we love to do outside of our home. Hopefully, we will continue to heal and be better than before.

The State has been opening its school doors and ringing the bell for students to come in and enjoy face-to-face instruction, but not here. Some of you may wonder why we have not opened our schools back up at Acoma and there are many reasons. We have to develop COVID-safe reentry plans for the schools, make sure our teachers are vaccinated, and ensure the school buildings are ready to safety receive our students. There is a lot of planning involved and it takes time, but we continue to work on finding ways to make sure our students, staff, and community are safe.

The Department is working on a first annual early childhood symposium titled, Planting our Seeds (naudim'ee trusa). The symposium is focused on supporting cultural immersion in early childhood and we would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the importance of prenatal, infant, and young children stages of development. Language and cultural teachings are the first food of knowledge that grow our little one's strength in identity. We hope you can join us in this event. Please visit our website (acomadoe.org) and social media for information or give us a call at 552-6077.

The workforce is slowly getting back to some sense of normalcy here at Acoma. There will be jobs available and training needed to build us back better than we were before so please call Nolan Valdo for information on how you can apply for work experience and training opportunities. If the workforce is not where you want to go, then you can call Leslie Vallo or Joanie Sanchez for information on adult/higher education scholarships. It's up to you on moving your career forward into something you will enjoy so give us a call.

This month's director activities have included webinars and telephone calls with state and federal agencies. It has been quite a challenge, a lot of time on calls, and trying to understand what education will look like in years to come but it's well worth it and helps in our planning process. We just participated in a department strategic planning session and we have anxiously waiting to get our activities together to achieve our goals. There's a lot of work to do and we are thankful.

As mentioned, there has been a lot of tribal consultation activities and much of it is based on tribes having a 'voice' in many areas of federal/state government agencies. We really need community input. Many of you have expressed exhaustion with surveys and other data collection activities and we are truly sorry but we need to hear from you on school reentry, gaps in education services, and student needs, to name a few. So, please help us by taking part in our surveys or webinars.

I have been teaching a grant writing course and it will last the full week of April 26-30. Grant writing is an art and I enjoy teaching it from my experience, knowledge, and skills. Please keep an eye out for more grant writing course announcements. The more we know, the more we thrive.

Lastly, we will have our graduation and completion ceremonies at the end of May. Please remember to practice your social distancing and wearing a face mask. We want all students to enjoy their end of year completion activities. We will have a graduation parade on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please look on our website for more information or give us a call.

Until next time,

Melissa E. Riley, PhD

**Executive Director** 



## News from Haak'u Community Academy

Guu waa dzii! Greetings! May Newsletter



May is the final month of the 2020-2021 school year. Despite the monumental challenges, HCA maintained high expectations for teaching and learning. Students were given opportunities to meet with their teachers for extra help, whether it was in a small group or in a 1-1 setting. We are very grateful for all the parental support in problem solving and for encouraging their child(ren) with attendance. Lessons will continue until the very last week in May.

The End of Year (EOY) testing for NWEA and DIBELS (K-2) will be conducted to measure overall academic growth in reading and math. Once again, students need to complete tests independently without any help. The testing window is open from April 26 to May 14. For more information about days and times, please contact the homeroom teacher.

The last packet pick-up day will be May 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 A.M - 1:00 P.M., and the final packet drop off date is May 20<sup>th</sup>. Computers and textbooks will be collected from the kindergarten first since their last day is May 21<sup>st</sup>. The rest of the students will return their computers and books on Tuesday, May 25<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>. Thank you parents and students for taking care of your laptops. The last day of school is Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>.

The end of year promotion activities for the Kindergarten class and the 8<sup>th</sup> grade have been planned for the students. Please check with teachers, Ms. Pinto and Mr. Myers for a schedule. Congratulations students! Best wishes to our 8<sup>th</sup> graders as they transition to high school.

The school continues to make every effort to improve safety on campus. HCA hopes to have air purifiers for every classroom by next school year. This will help in circulating clean air in the classrooms each hour.

HCA is hosting a 10-day summer school June 1<sup>st</sup> through June 14<sup>th</sup>. Priority is for students who are in the SAT process. The program can accommodate up to 60 participants. HCA partners with the ALDI program and the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Afterschool/Summer School program.

On a final note, the Battle of Books reading competition did experience a change of course this year. Instead of students traveling to the Santa Fe Indian School campus for the annual competition, this year our students in grades 4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> showcased their favorite books by completing a project in a format of their choice. Great job, students!



## Cont. News from Haak'u Community Academy

We cannot thank you parents enough for all your time and support on behalf your child. We look forward to the 2021-2022 school year on campus. As for now, take some time in the summer to relax and enjoy a good book. Always practice safety when you are out and about for the sake and health of our precious community.

Mrs. Perez, Instructional Coach Mrs. Edwina Trujillo, Principal 505-934-0888 Gil Sanchez, Education Program Administrator



#### Keep learning on going over the summer:

Read 30-60 minutes a day.

MobyMax.com, <a href="https://www.mobymax.com/signin">https://www.mobymax.com/signin</a> (English Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies K-8th)

Getepic <a href="https://www.getepic.com/">https://www.getepic.com/</a> (Reading library K-5)





## Haaku Learning Center News

#### **May Newsletter Article**

#### KatieAnn Juanico

Hello ADOE students and families! As all of you prepare for the end of the school year, I'd like to say congratulations to all your time and work this school year. This school year has presented many bumps and difficulties however, I am encouraging you to take some time to reflect on all that you have learned this school year. There are many new skills that have evolved due to the pandemic. When I think about my staff here at the Haak'u Learning Center (HLC) and all the new skills we have added to our teacher tool boxes, I think of:

Zoom – all teachers and staff now have their own Zoom accounts and have learned the in's and out's of hosting meetings with families and Classroom Zoom Sessions with the families in their classroom. Our program even has it's own account and we hope to host virtual events beginning in May 2021.

Customer Service – all teachers and staff attended a Customer Service training at the beginning of the year. These skills became essential this school year. Our teachers and staff talk to our families each week either by phone, text, e-mail or Zoom. Our teachers and staff have great appreciation and new insights for how quality communication looks and how it can be tailored to fit the specific needs of our families during a pandemic.

Professional Development – all teachers and staff have attended weekly trainings this school year. This year has given us time to build capacity within our program and has offered us time to learn new content that, in a normal school year, we would not have had as much time to do. After staff attend a training, they submit an exit ticket to me and their Supervisor. Reading their exit tickets and understanding what they learned and how they can apply their skills in their work is probably one of the favorite parts of my day/job.

Video and Recording Skills – all teachers and staff are movie stars! The teachers are required to create videos to post to Class Dojo each week. I am blown away with all the technology skills that our staff have learned and have integrated into the videos for children and families.

#### Cont.

Jaaku Learning Center News



As you can see, the HLC has grown tremendously this school year. It has been difficult and I'm sure all the staff prefer to physically see the children and families but, I'd like to salute the HLC turtle team on all the new skills that we have and can share with our families. One question on our HLC Training Exit Ticket is:

"Based on what you learned from the training, what is another topic that you want to understand in a deeper way than you know it now? Sometimes when we learn something new it gets our wheels spinning and thinking about other "things" we want to learn or improve. List at least one of your ideas and tell us all we need to know to help meet your request. This can be anything related to your position."

0My staff's responses to this question are my favorite section to read on the exit ticket. It is evident to me that the staff are learning and that although we are working during a pandemic, the staff have found inspiration and more importantly, motivation to learn more. Again, I challenge all of us to think about what we have learned and gained this year and to reflect on what we now know in a deeper way because of the pandemic.

Sending virtual hugs,

KatieAnn Juanico, HLC DirectorJo





## **WIOA News**





#### **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.

Nolan P. Valdo

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## Keres Language Group News

Guuw'aadzi hauba, gaidawa trədraidraasrka

Spring has sprung, weather is getting nice and we will soon be spending more time outdoors, perhaps tending the fields, gardens, large and small, perhaps doing some flower beds.

A few words to keep in mind as your do your gardening.

gam'ishu - the ground is damp
ya'ai - sand
ts'itsi - water
n'audiisi - I am going to plant
gawitsi - seeds
meruuni gawsitsi - melon seeds
agətrətsi gawsitsi - flower seeds
chəəri - chili
y'aachin'i - corn
nushdyuwit'atsi - I will irrigate



In order for our children to be future leaders of our language and culture, we need to start sharing our knowledge, to start planting those seeds of knowledge. We can begin planting veggie and flower seeds as well as seeds of language and culture.

From the Language Group, kudruwaushtiya naudiim'e kudrusa - happy planting.

Rebecca Martin

Language Project Coordinator



### Family and Child Education (FACE) Program

#### Family and Child Education (FACE) Program



#### **Greetings Everyone!**

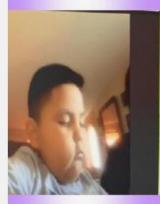
April has been a busy month for the FACE Program! As our program moves forward we have begun to see tremendous growth in our children and families, in the areas of reading, writing and hand eye coordination activities. Our FACE families for the past school year have been meeting our certified Parent Educator, Preschool Teacher and Adult Educator weekly via zoom! Our staff has been very prompt in mailing activity packets to our families that include weekly lessons, activities and incentives. It has been difficult not being able to meet with our families in person, but we are looking forward to the days we can host our participants!

Some upcoming events FACE has planned is our Drive-Thru Promotion Celebration happening on May 21<sup>st</sup> at the Haak'u Community Academy and our Technical Assistant (TA) visits that will begin our end of year documentation. The FACE team also attended the FACE 2021 Regional Training, where we learned ideas to share with our families in the 2021-2022 school year! FACE is also enrolling for the 2021-2022 School Year! For more information about the FACE Program please contact (505)-934-2144 or (505)-934-1714.

As participants in the FACE program, each family in our Center-based preschool and adult education programs are required to participate in PACT Time. Parent and Child Together

(PACT) Time allows for our children and parents to interact with each other for one hour every week during our weekly preschool lessons. Participants are mailed home an activity that focuses around a child-led activity, where parents are able to help and guide them. For the week of 4/15/2021 our children and parents focused on Shoe Tying! Each family was mailed their own cardboard cutout of a shoe that had ribbon laced through for tying, along with some stickers, construction paper, crayons, markers and fabric. Each family spent the first 30 minutes of the activity decorating their shoes, then our FACE center-based staff introduced poems, rhymes and helpful tips to parents on how they can begin introducing shoe tying! By the end of the PACT time activity, each participant was engaged, and successful in tying their cardboard shoes! WAY TO GO!











#### Now Enrolling: The Next Generation of Doctors

#### Attention 3rd-6th grade families! We've got a summer program for our future healthcare heroes.

What does it mean to be healthy? Who are doctors and what do they DO? The American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM) is looking for students in grades 3-6 to join our free Doctors & What They DO summer program.

Participating 3rd-6th grade students will complete a two-week curriculum, Monday-Friday, consisting of 10 lessons ranging from 30-50 minutes per day.

All lessons will be offered virtually and taught by current osteopathic medical students.

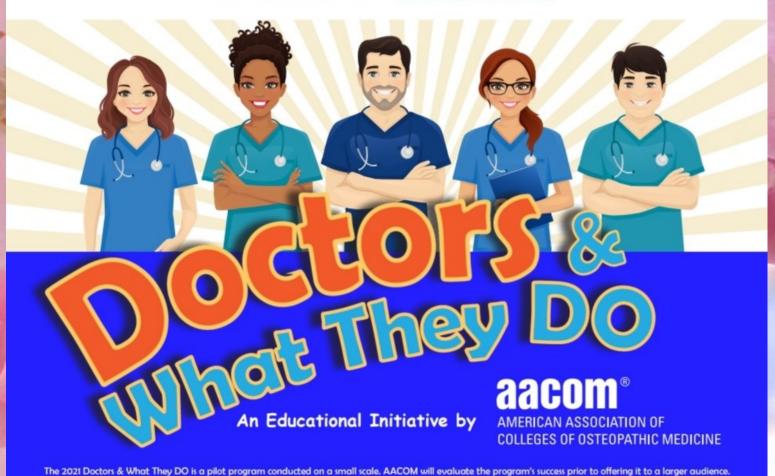
Carefully designed to educate and inspire the next generation of doctors, the lessons and curricular resources are aligned with **Common Core State Standards**.

There is **no cost** to participate in Doctors & What They DO. All lessons will be taught virtually through Zoom.

The program starts June 1, 2021 and will run in concurrent two-week sessions through August 1, 2021.

For more information and to enroll your child, visit: www.aacom.org/Doctors-and-what-they-DO

Questions? Email us at <a href="mailto:choosedo@aacom.org">choosedo@aacom.org</a>.





#### **CALLING ALL ACOMA GRADUATES**

COLLEGE

HIGH SCHOOL

MIDDLE SCHOOL

**HEAD START** 

ADoE would like to Congratulate all Graduates on your Accomplishments!

We would like to feature all Graduates in our upcoming ADoE newsletter, ADoE webpage, and our ADoE Facebook page.

If you would like to be featured please email your picture of choice with the

following information:

\* Full Name

\* Name of School

To Imvallo@poamail.org or jsanchez@poamail.org no later than May 28, 2021

If you have any questions please call (505) 401-0016 or (505) 285-0166





## From: The ADoE Staff