



NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF INCLUSIVE EDUCATION, INDIAN EDUCATION

[HTTPS://DOE.NV.GOV/OFFICES/INDIAN-EDUCATION](https://doe.nv.gov/offices/indian-education)

The following are current projects we are working on at the Nevada Department of Education.

TRIBAL CONSULTATION

We are excited to announce a new position at the Nevada Department of Education for Indian Education. The Education Programs Professional position was approved in the 82nd Legislature Session position to lead the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Tribal Consultation process in Nevada. Ms. Fawn Hunter, a member of the Duck Valley Shoshone-Paiute Tribe, and a descendant of the Washoe Tribe and Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe was chosen to lead and manage the formal process for the ESSA Tribal Consultation in Nevada. She will start on February 5, 2024.

With the passage of ESSA Tribal Consultation, it provides unique opportunities for states, districts, schools, and tribes to work together to strengthen the education for Native students throughout the country. Meaningful consultation will assist in building relationships and strengthening support systems to bridge the gap between educators and tribes for student success in grades K-12.

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Tribal Consultation is a formal process between tribal representatives and local education agencies (LEAs) that serves the American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) student population. Ideally, the consultation process is intended to build relationships and create ongoing opportunities to improve student achievement for AI/AN students in Nevada.

The position will work with local education agencies (LEAs), school districts who are required to consult with tribes who receive more than \$40,000 in a Title VI Indian Education Formula grant. They will also work with LEAs who are not required per PL 114-95 § 8538, 20 U.S.C. 7918 to create similar strategies for relationship building to increase student academic achievement.

NATIVE YOUTH COMMUNITY PROJECT

The Nevada Department of Education is a recipient of the Native Youth Community Project (NYCP) grant for five years, starting in 2022. The NYCP focuses on ensuring that Indian students are prepared for college and careers.

The project facilitates evidence-based professional learning opportunities and ensures that local Indian Education students are prepared for college and career. The goals are to: 1) Implement a successful NYCP that promotes and prepares Native American (NA) students for college and careers, with an emphasis on careers in the teaching profession; 2) Increase student academic performance by including opportunities in the local community to support NA students; and 3) Increase NA student motivation and readiness to attend college or vocational training.

See the [2022-2023 NYCP Annual Evaluation Report](#) for more information on activities that occurred this past year.

ARP ESSER PROJECT

In 2021, the Native American Curriculum Enhancement Project (NACEP) was approved to shape a culturally responsive system for educators to have relevant and accurate content material related to the experience of Native American Indians in Nevada. The project will create visually appealing templates for existing lessons, add additional lessons, create new lessons, and will provide training and implementation, and evaluation and assessment. Educators will have the effectiveness of training and use of materials. This is the beginning to create culturally relevant materials.

Project Activities

- i. Met with tribes in Nevada to provide information on the project. We will continue meeting with tribes at the Indian Education Summit's Tribes Day.
- ii. Created an all-Indigenous Educator Board to review the lesson developed by Education Northwest.
- iii. Provided a brown bag series during Native American Heritage Month, aligned to the Lessons.
- iv. Preparing to create professional learning opportunities in Canvas.

INDIAN EDUCATION SUMMIT

The Summit has not taken place since 2019, so we are excited to provide a setting once again for school districts, schools, postsecondary institutions, tribal communities, and families to come together to gather resources and best practices focused on indigenous culture and traditions to improve student academic achievement.

This year, the theme, *The Landscape of Indian Education: Looking back to Look Forward. Using data to invest in our students* will guide content for the two days. This year, WestEd is a partner, along with long-time contributors, the Nevada Indian Commission and the University of Nevada, Reno's Multi-Cultural Center. We are excited that University of Nevada, Las Vegas's College of Hospitality will also be a partner this year.

We invite the Commissions to attend the Summit this year.

Additional information

The Nevada Department of Education will focus on student data this year to align with the State Improvement Plan. We will work with WestEd to use data to create a plan for Indian education in our state.

One resource that has been helpful is the Indigenous Student Count: A Landscape Analysis of American Indian and Alaska Native Student Data in U.S. K-12 Public Schools, 2023.

<https://www.air.org/indigenous-students-count>.

Any questions can be referred to:

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