

Eagle Express Parent Newsletter

Yá' át'ééh from Navajo Preparatory School

Welcome New Students!



New Student Orientation

Welcome new students! The New Student Orientation was held on August 9-11, 2009. We had a total of 80 new students who attended the three day orientation. New students had the opportunity to visit the campus, meet teachers and staff. Sessions during the orientation included Math, English, Science, Health, Library, Academic Counseling, testing, teambuilding and the Student Based Health Center.

Our off campus activity was a skating trip that the new students really enjoyed.

The academy is made up of a team of freshmen teachers. The Freshmen Academy helps students during their first year at NPS.



Our meetings are held every month. We implement strategies and interventions for students who need help and as well as recognize students who are doing well. Students must attend mandatory study hall from 4 pm to 5 pm in the cafeteria every Tuesday and Thursday. If you have any concerns or questions, you may contact me at 505-326-6571, ext. 309 or email me at:

cfranklin@nps.bia.edu .

*Char Franklin,
Freshmen Academy
Coordinator*

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Special points of interest:

Senior Snippets

Your students are seniors this year and their senior year is finally here. It will fly by and, before we know it, May and graduation will be here. The Senior class sponsors this year are Betty Strong and Kevin Keeley.

Inside this issue:

Senior Snippets	2
Chemistry Notes	2
Futures for Children	3
NATIVE H.O.P.E.	4
New Moon Run	4
Student Success Coord.	5
Fall Sports Season	5

SENIOR SNIPPETS

Greetings to the senior parents and guardians

Your student's senior year is finally here. It will fly by and, before we know it, May and graduation will be here. The Senior class sponsors this year are Betty Strong and Kevin Keeley. We have our first class meeting on Wednesday, August 26th. We will begin to discuss and plan for graduation ceremonies.

The class will be meeting with the Campus Specialty representative to begin selecting graduation announcements on Thursday, September 17th and she will return for students' to place orders on Friday, Oct. 2nd. At that time a \$50 deposit will be required for students' to place their orders for the announcements and graduation caps and gowns. Campus

Specialty is the company selected by the class for graduation announcements and caps and gowns. They represent Herff-Jones. Using this company simplifies the ordering process and allows the students to have the same announcement design. All the orders are taken at school and delivered at school, although parents or guardians can deal directly with the company which is located in Albuquerque if they choose to do so.

Students are **not** required to order their announcements from this company. They may choose to order from a printing company, an office supply such as Staples, Office Depot, Best Buy or Hallmark store since all these places handle this type of business. Their prices may be cheaper.

We do ask students to order at least their caps and gowns from Campus

Specialty to insure we have similar one and a more uniform appearance for pictures and the graduation ceremony. Their prices are very comparable to any other place which supplies these articles.

The sponsors will try to keep everyone updated through the school newsletter and, if necessary, information sent directly to parents/guardians either through letters hand carried by students or mailings. If you wish to be contacted by email, please send us an email address which we can set up for individual contact or for group mailings.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact either Mr. Keeley at extension 305 or kkeeley@nps.bia.edu or Mrs. Strong at extension 308 or bstrong@nps.bia.edu.

Chemistry Notes from Mrs. Strong, Teacher

We have gotten off to a great start in the chemistry classes this year at NPS. We are offering a new chemistry class, Advanced Placement Chemistry, for the first time. This class is a 2 semester class which is equivalent to a first year college chemistry course. Students will take this class the entire year and perform approximately 24 labs, keeping a lab notebook. Then in May they will take a national AP chemistry exam. If they score at a required level or above, most colleges and universities give the equivalent credit for the first year chemistry course. If they do a good job on the laboratory component and keep their lab notebooks properly they can also receive credit in the college chemistry lab class. This is an

excellent opportunity for students to earn credit at no cost to their parents/guardians.

There are also two Chemistry I classes this fall. These will be taught at Pre-AP level which should be more challenging for students. This class will prepare students for the AP Chemistry class or their entry level college chemistry or physical classes. One thing that is **required** for all chemistry classes is a scientific calculator. Small inexpensive ones can be purchased at Walmart and similar stores for about \$12 dollars. These are adequate for the classwork; however, if you can afford the investment, a graphing calculator is better. The Texas Instrument graphing calculators cost from approximately \$100 to

about \$120. These are much more expensive, but they can be used for the Advanced Placement Calculus and Chemistry classes and even on the AP exams. These calculators can also be used on the ACT and SAT exams as well. They are the only calculators your student will need during their college classes. These calculators are well worth the investment as they can be used for so many classes and exams for so many years.

Which ever calculator is selected, the students need to get one as soon as possible since we are already doing calculations in class and will continue to do so throughout the semester. Help your student by getting him or her the necessary supplies as soon as you can.

The Futures For Children Youth Leadership

The Futures For Children Youth Leadership students ended their year in a very positive and eventful way. Although the school year ended, these students continued to stay active in youth leadership roles. Over the summer, students attended the 2009 Futures For Children Youth Leadership Summit in Flagstaff, Arizona and the 2009 National UNITY Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

As a new school year begins, youth leadership students are looking forward to continuing to serve their community with continued community service. In addition, students are excited to re-establish a UNITY Youth Council on campus.



2009 Youth Leadership Summit
Latawnya McCray, Glenna Cly, Ranee Dechilly, Jim West, President of Futures For Children, and Dominick Bitsui



2009 Youth Leadership Summit
Mrs. Joe (Sponsor), Dominick Bitsui, Latawnya McCray, Glenna Cly, Ranee Dechilly, and Janessa Roy



2009 National UNITY Conference
Glenna Cly, Joe Garcia (President of National Congress of American Indians) and Dominick Bitsui



2009 National UNITY Conference
Dominick and Glenna with James and Ernie



Native H.O.P.E. (Helping Our People Endure)



Native culture, traditions, spirituality, ceremonies, and humor”. The program has been used in Native communities in New Mexico and Arizona as well as Montana, North Dakota, and Washington. *Navajo School Coordinated Health* is presenting this program to eight high schools in the Shiprock area: Shiprock High, Northwest High, Career Prep, Whitehorse High, Red Mesa High, Newcomb High, Rocinante High, and Navajo Prep.

They will all have one day of program specific training with Dr. Small.

If you have any questions or want additional information about this program contact Linda LeClaire LPCC, Mental Health Counselor, McKenzie School Based Health Center, phone: 505-330-9411, lleclaire@nps.bia.edu.

We are working with *Navajo School Coordinated Health* to provide a program called **Native H.O.P.E.** to our freshmen students. Our group of Natural Helpers that were trained last year will be assisting. The program will be October 6-7, 2009.

Native H.O.P.E. (Helping Our People Endure) is a prevention program that was developed by Clayton Small, Ph.D. and Ernest Bighorn, Jr. The program is a “strengths based approach to suicide prevention, wellness, and leadership that incorporates

Navajo Prep will be partnering with Rocinante High School in Farmington. Dr. Clayton Small will be leading the training on our campus. Approximately 100 youth will be participating. The program will include a discussion about mental health and will address suicide so we will have behavioral health professionals available throughout the training. The professionals will be coming from IHS, other schools, and the community.

“At a young age, children know that when their clothes are on fire they are to stop, drop, and roll. They know to buckle their seat belts when getting into a car. They know not to talk to strangers. We have all learned how to say no to drugs, to practice safe sex, and not to drink and drive. But I have never learned what to do when I am feeling depressed. We know to call 911 in the event of an emergency, but I have never learned the number to call when I feel like my thoughts are my own worst enemy.”

Zach - age 23,

NEW MOON RUN

Cultural Significance: Elders encourage running toward the east to greet the morning sun an

To Participate: Meet in the Hogan at 5:45 am on the morning of the run. After a brief morning prayer, participants run/walk to the Apache Elementary School and back to campus.

d receive its many blessing. To pro-

mote a healthy lifestyle focusing on physical endurance, mental strength, and spirituality.

New Moon Run T-Shirts: People who participate in at least two New Moon Runs will receive a t-shirt.

Fall 2009 New Moon Runs:

August 28, September 18, October 23,

November 20 & December 18.



New Student Success Coordinator & Discipline Officer

Hello, my name is Roderick Denetso and I would like to say welcome to all the new students, happy to see all returning students and hello to parents/guardians.

As you can see I'm new to NPS and very excited to work with your children. I am the new Student Success Coordinator and Discipline Officer. I am new to NPS but born and raised on the Navajo Nation in the small town of Klagehoh and graduated from Ganado High School in 1996. With hard work and determination I went on to play college football in Oklahoma and finished my

career at Arizona State University playing for the late Bruce Snyder. I have two sons name Traivian and Tariq. A dream of mine has been to return home and give back to our youth and my people. I was very excited when NPS gave me that opportunity to fulfill this dream. I will be coordinating the after school activities this school year. With this position I would like to introduce students to new experiences and continue to focus on our academics and culture. We will be working with community, taking trips, teaching life

skills, Dance, Art, Biking, Cooking, Navajo Culture and many more. I would like parents/guardians to please contact me if they have any ideas for our programs. As a Discipline officer, I will be following the student/parent handbook. Each student has knowledge of the student/parent handbook and each parent should have access to a student/parent handbook. Here at Prep each student is accountable for their actions. I am fair with each student and your child will come away from Prep a better person.

Thank you, Roderick Denetso

Fall Sports Seasons



Fall sport seasons are underway. Football, Volleyball, and Cross Country all begin competition the week of August 24th. Volleyball has their season/home opener on August 25th against Newcomb. Volleyball will also travel to Shiprock on August 27th. Also on August 27th, the football team will open its season with a road game at Bloomfield JV. Game

time is 7:00. August 29th cross country will open their season at home. Race begins 9:00 am at Berg Park. Navajo Prep looks forward to seeing you out at our matches and games supporting the Eagles!

Mr. Christman, Athletics

Looking Ahead

Mark your calendars as Eagle Athletics head into September. The volleyball team will host Ramah on September 1 and Bayfield on September 15. Also the Eagles will be playing locally at the Farmington Invite (9/11 and 9/12) and the Bloomfield Invite (9/18 and 9/19). The football program is excited to have homecoming

on September 26. This game will also mark the opening of the on campus football field. Game time is 1:00, with festivities prior to kickoff. The cross country team will have one area meet at Piedra Vista on September 25, as well as meets at the University of New Mexico and Chinle.

Go Eagles!

Follow Prep Athletics

You can keep track of all Prep Athletics, including schedules and results at our new website

www.navajoprep.com. Get Navajo Prep Athletic scores sent directly to your phone subscribe to the Navajo Prep Athletics twitter account <http://twitter.com/PrepAthletics>

Mr. Christman, Athletics

MISSION STATEMENT

Navajo Preparatory School

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Yisdeeskáággó Naat'aanii
Leaders Now and
Into the Future.

La misión de la escuela es para educar a los alumnos Navajos de mucho talento y motivación que vayan a la universidad y también a otros jóvenes de los americanos nativos quienes tengan el poder de lograr el éxito con la educación superior y además, llegar a ser los líderes de sus propias comunidades.

The mission of the school is to educate talented and motivated college-bound Navajo and other Native American youth that have the potential to succeed in higher education and become leaders in their respective communities.

Díí ólta' bá át'éhígíí éí ólta'í T'áá Diné dóó Bitsí' yishtłizhii ayóo nitsékeesii dóó ayóo ólta' yíneedlínígíí t'áá bizaad, bibee e'él'í' dóó bibee da'iináanii bit nilnígíí áádóó ádíyóltq'ígíí bá hahodít'é.



Parent Advisory Committee / Indian Education Committee

We have vacancies for the following Parent Advisory Committee (PAC):

- 1. Alberta Nephew, PAC President
2. Leroy Nelson, PAC Vice-President
3. Secretary.....Vacant
4. Member-at-Large.....Vacant
5. Member-at-Large.....Vacant

Stop by the office or call 505-326-6571, ext. 126 if you are interested. Contact: Marilyn Holiday

We also have vacancies for the Indian Education Committee for the following:

- 1. Rose Woody, IEC Chairperson
2. IEC Vice-Chairperson.....Vacant
3. IEC Secretary.....Vacant
4. IEC Member-at-Large.....Vacant
5. IEC Member-at-Large.....Vacant

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