

UNR ✨ College Trip



Thank you to the 33 students who joined us for our first college trip of the Native Youth Community Project grant! Though, it was a cold and windy day, it was great to see everyone, build community and learn more about the university and it's resources for Native students.



As we grow our program, we look forward to many more college and career focused trips in and outside of Nevada!





What is a Tribal Youth Advocacy Specialist?

Our TYAS are mentors for our students. With the goal of meeting with each student at least every other week, the goal is to building relationships that help students navigate successfully from school. Each quarter, our TYAS set goals with students and check in on them periodically. They will also support students in talking with teachers and other staff with concerns. Our TYAS are our students' advocates on their campus and are happy to support students however they need through those important relationships. With our new NYCP grant, our mentors will work with students for at least the next four school years.



Did you know middle school brains are growing as fast as a 0-3 year old?

Students aged 11-14 are undergoing the second biggest period of brain development. If you have a middle schooler at home, this probably doesn't surprise you. Known as the "sensitive period" or "window of opportunity," this time of growth is when the brain is making connections linked to social and emotional skills. The brain is ready to learn from social cues and explore. Students in this age group also have a great chance during this time to develop resiliency, overcoming past traumas with the right supports. What can you do at home to help students as they are developing at this age:

- Set clear boundaries and routines
- Listen and try not to judge
- Encourage positive social interactions and the desire to explore

research for this article from:
<https://hechingerreport.org/middle-schools-moment-what-the-science-tells-us-about-improving-the-middle-grades/>

Dean's Future Scholars

The Native Youth Community Project grant was awarded seats in the Dean's Future Scholars programs dedicated to our Native students with 506 forms on file. We have seats available in the following programs. Transportation will be provided:

- DFS Middle School, current 6th and 7th graders: No coursework, fun trips and community building.
- DFS High School, current 8th and 9th graders: Get ahead earning high school credits while building community.
- DFS Dual Credit, current 10th and 11th graders: Get ahead of your college career by earning college credit while building community.

NYCP will be partnering with DFS to provide Elder led cultural activities within the program day.





Have questions about the program? Have ideas to share?

Reach out to us



Monica Downard

Tribal Youth Advocacy Specialist

Cold Springs, Desert Skies, Swope and
Traner Middle Schools
Hug, North Valleys, and Reno High
Schools

mdownard@washoeschools.net

775-476-8623

Naomi Hanczrik

Tribal Youth Advocacy Specialist

Shaw and Sky Ranch Middle Schools
Spanish Springs High School

naomi.hanczrik@washoeschools.net

775-502-9602

Dlonra (DJ) Pasao

Tribal Youth Advocacy Specialist

Billinghurst, Clayton and Vaughn
Middle Schools

McQueen and Wooster High Schools

dlonra.pasao@washoeschools.net

Fawn Hunter

Native American Culture and Education

fawn.hunter@washoeschools.net

775-789-4672

Denise Miles

NYCP Coordinator

denise.miles@washoeschools.net

775-453-0391

Heather Egtvedt

Tribal Youth Advocacy Specialist

DePoali, Dilworth, Incline MS,
Northstar, Pine and Sparks Middle
Schools

Damonte Ranch, Incline HS,
Northstar, Sparks and RISE Academy
High Schools

heather.egtvedt@washoeschools.net

775-502-8041

Lauren Wilson

Tribal Youth Advocacy Specialist

Herz and Mendive Middle Schools
AACT, Galena, Innovations, Reed and
TMCC High Schools

Turning Point and Washoe Inspire

lauren.wilson@washoeschools.net

775-502-9409



We'll be at Natchez on April 8th,
come see us and pick up books for
students!



FIND YOUR CHILD'S SUPER POWER!!!

IDENTIFY STRENGTHS AND ABILITIES AT THIS FAMILY EVENT!!!

11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. | Saturday | April 8, 2023

Natchez Elementary School

Wadsworth, NV

PROFESSIONAL SCREENINGS:

DENTAL

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

PHYSICAL THERAPY

NUTRITION

SPEECH PATHOLOGY

PEDIATRICIAN

