

Native American Program Family Newsletter

February/March 2019

Greetings,

Hope everyone is staying healthy and warm during this frigid winter.

At the end of January, the Native American Program received a generous donation from the Mdewakanton Sioux Community in the amount of \$5,000. These funds will be used to purchase bus tickets, allowing parents to purchase strips for half price.

Tax season is upon us. Are you ready? Red River Valley Community Action offers VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance). VITA helps low income, elderly and disabled persons who are needing assistance in completing their federal and state income tax returns. For more information please call 701-746-5431.

With that said, if you are thinking or planning to attend college this fall, it's time to fill out the 2019-2020 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form. Once your 2018 taxes are filed, you can transfer your tax info directly to the FAFSA form right away using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (IRS DRT). If you're eligible, this is the fastest, most accurate way to input your tax info and may reduce the paperwork required by your school. Log on to fafsa.org or contact your school counselors to get started!

Within the next few weeks, we will be collaborating with East Grand Forks Public Schools to bring some culultural events there. More information will be sent out pertaining to this.

Sincerely,

Chad Ward
Native American Program Liaison

Phone: (701)-746-2200 ext. 1412
Email: cward070@mygfschools.org
Mark Stanford Education Center 2400 47th Ave S.



Important Dates

February 13th
1hr Late Start for HS

February 20th
1:30pm Early Release
for Elementary

February 21-22nd
No School K-12
Conference Trade Days

February 27 & 28th
ZAPS ACT Test-Prep
Seminar
Central HS: 3:00-5:30pm
Red Rive HS: 6:30-9:00pm

March 1st
K-5/Twinning K-8 11:20am
Dismissal (PT Conference)

March 13th
1Hr Late Start for HS
1:30pm Early Release for
Elementary



Mark Sanford Education Center
PO Box 6000 (58206-6000)
2400 47th Ave South (58201-3405)
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Chad Ward
Native American Program Liaison
Phone: 701.746.2200 Ext. 1412
Fax: 701.772.7739
cward070@mygfschools.org

Are you the Parent/Guardian of a Native American Student in the Grand Forks Public School District?

You may be eligible for services provided by the Native American Program if:

- Your child is an enrolled tribal member,
OR
- A parent or grandparent is a member of a tribe, by state or federal recognition.

If you have not already done so, please contact your school secretary to fill out a Title VII Eligibility form, or '506 Form'. Alternatively, you can receive one by mail, e-mail or by picking one up from the Mark Sanford Education Center.

To request a copy be sent to you, please call or email Chad Ward.

Services Available...

- Cost assistance for:
 - ENCORE Program
 - ZAPS ACT Prep Course
 - Jeffco Credit Recovery
 - Duel Credit tuition
 - AP Course Testing
- Tutoring
- Cultural Activities
- Culturally focused learning materials,
which includes access to program library.

** Be sure you are meeting and speaking with your High School Guidance Counselor about those listed above, as well as College visits, applications and scholarships.

It's never too early to start thinking about the future!



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January 23rd, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Your student is eligible to access the ZAPS – Test Prep seminar free of charge. The Native American Parent Committee has set aside funds to assist Native American sophomores, juniors and seniors with ACT test prep. This is at no cost to you as long as you have completed the Native American 506 Form.

In the five-hour ZAPS test-prep seminar, your student will

- Learn tips for improvement in all subtests
- Practice strategies to eliminate wrong answer choices
- Take shortened practice tests that mirror the actual testing experience
- Prepare to write a well-organized, persuasive essay
- Reduce test anxiety and gain confidence
- Receive a comprehensive *Study Guide* and practice-test workouts for each subtest

The seminars are held at our local high schools and students can attend either site.

Central High School
February 27 & 28, 2019
3pm-5:30pm

Or

Red River High School
February 27 & 28, 2019
6:30pm-9pm

If the date(s) above are inconvenient, consider registering your student for the same, quality ZAPS seminar presented *online* by a live instructor in a webinar format. You can find more information about ZAPS seminars at www.webinars.doorwaytocollege.com.

Please complete the enclosed form and return as soon as possible.

Please contact Chad Ward at 701-746-2200 ext. 1412 if you have any questions or need more information.

Sincerely,

Chad Ward
Native American Program Liaison



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ZAPS Test Prep Seminar REGISTRATION FORM

_____ Yes, I am interested in the ZAPS Test Prep Seminar for my child.
 _____ My Son/Daughter WILL NOT participate in the ZAPS Test Prep Seminar.

Student Name	Grade	School

Contact Information

Email: _____ **Phone:** _____

Please register my child for the following ACT Prep Seminar.

_____ Grand Forks Central High School
 Date February 27 & 28, 2019
 Time 3pm-5:30pm

_____ Red River High School
 Date February 27 & 28, 2019
 Time 6:30pm-9pm

_____ Online Seminar
 *Please contact Taunya Schleicher at 701-787-4882 to review schedule

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Office Use Only: Date Received: _____
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