



Native American Studies Newsletter

TUSD

December 2011

NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES

DEPARTMENT

Government Programs and
Community Outreach
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A Note from the Director

Greetings!

The weather has changed and it sure feels like winter even though the first day of winter is on December 22nd. Please help us welcome Morning Star Garcia to the Native American Studies Department team. You will be able to read about Morning Star in this issue in addition to our students in our Student Highlight section.

As we look to the new year, we will begin the planning process for our Title 7 and Johnson O'Malley programs. Please take time to complete the enclosed Title VII and Johnson O'Malley needs assessment which will help us plan for the next school year. These forms are due on Friday, January 20, 2012. Upon receipt of the survey you will also be eligible for a Wal-Mart or Fry's gift card.

As we approach the end of the first semester and winter break, our children are looking forward to time off from daily school routines. We don't want their academic skills to slip so here are some ideas to help them maintain skills over winter break:

- Read for pleasure
- Cook together; it involves using both math and reading skills
- Have family game nights (games such as Bingo, Scrabble, Boggle, UNO, Yahtzee reinforce skills)

We hope that you all enjoy a wonderful Winter Break. Nizhoni Keshmish! (Merry Christmas) and see you all in the new year! Please email or give me a call if you have any questions or need assistance.

Ahee'hee! Thank you!
Roxanne Begay-James

STUDENT ADVOCACY

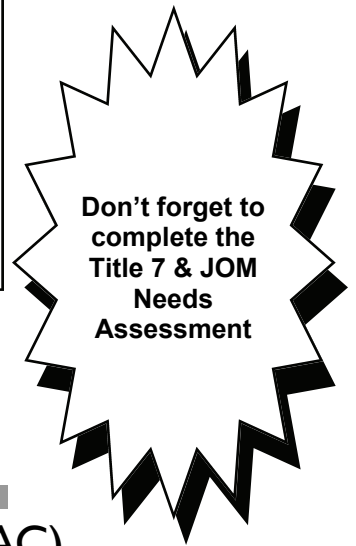
NASD is committed to providing timely advocacy support for your child when needed or requested. If you have a concern or believe your child is not receiving equitable and fair treatment, please give us a call. We do not have a staff person in each school, however, if there is a need we will make adjustments to support you in meetings with the school and advocate on your behalf.



NASD Program Update



My name is Morning Star G. Garcia. I am a member of the Tohono O'odham Nation. I am a tutor advisor for Kel-lond Elementary School, Utterback Middle School, Maxwell Middle School, Catalina High School and Tucson High Magnet School. I graduated from the University of Arizona with a Bachelor's of Science in Education in 2005. I have taught Physical Education and middle school math. I've tutored in various subjects for all ages and grade levels; elementary to college. I look forward to working with students and giving back to the Native American community by helping our youth become successful in school, to study, learn and reach their full potential.



Native American Education Advisory Committee (NAEAC)

Date	Time	Location
January 24, 2012	6:00 p.m.	Southwest Education Center (6855 S. Mark Road)
February 21, 2012	6:00 p.m.	Southwest Education Center (6855 S. Mark Road)
March 20, 2012	6:00 p.m.	Southwest Education Center (6855 S. Mark Road)
April 24, 2012	6:00 p.m.	Southwest Education Center (6855 S. Mark Road)
June 5, 2012	6:00 p.m.	Southwest Education Center (6855 S. Mark Road)



Dinner served @ 5:30 p.m.



Student Spotlight Elementary



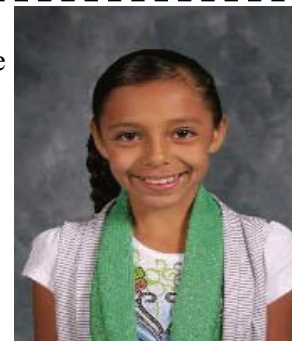
Mica Hoeffner is an eight year old 2nd grader at Borton Elementary. She is a member of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe. Her favorite subject in school is math because she likes subtracting; it's easy and she likes to think and solve

problems. If she could have lunch with anyone it would be with her best friend Savannah because she is kind and her mom and dad work with Savannah's mom. She admires her little sister Lilah because she is never bad to her, she is sweet and loving too. After high school she would like to be a teacher because she wants to help kids like her teacher helps her. She is reading Chester the Great by Mary Francis Shura. Her favorite song is, "One Step at a Time" by Jordin Sparks. Her dream job is to be a kindergarten teacher. Her dream car is a dark green mustang. Her favorite place in Tucson is Madera Canyon because it has lots of nature, like the stream. Her hidden talent is dancing hip hop. Mica had perfect attendance for the first quarter and her teacher says she is always a good student and is friends with everyone.

Gabrielle Encinas is a 5th grade student in Mrs. Galvan's classroom at Lawrence Intermediate. She is being recognized for having perfect attendance since the beginning of the school year. Gabrielle is a member of the Tohono O'odham Nation. Her favorite subject is Math. Gabrielle enjoys playing volleyball during her lunch recess and playing catch outside when she is at home. If she could have lunch with anyone she would like to have lunch with Mrs. Garcia. Her favorite book to read is Pee Wee Scouts Cookies and Crutches. The person she admires the most is her big sister Maria. Gabrielle plans to go to the U of A after she graduates from high school and earn a teaching degree. Her dream car is a truck. Her favorite place to visit is the Reid Park Zoo. One of Gabrielle's hidden talents is cooking.



Aleena Madrid is 9 years old and a fourth grader at Warren Elementary. She enjoys art, playing tag with her sisters and reading Junie B. Jones books. Aleena has great admiration for her Nina because she is helpful and fun. If she could have lunch with anyone she would share a pepperoni pizza with Barack Obama and get an insight on the life of a President. In the future, Aleena would like to make a difference in the world by becoming a teacher. She also dreams of driving her friends to the movies in her shiny, purple Jeep while listening to her favorite Katy Perry tunes.



Esiae Leeks is a nine year old 4th grader at Borton Elementary. He is a member of the Tohono O'odham Nation. His favorite subject in school is Social Studies because he likes to explore and research new things. He also likes looking at maps. In school Esiae's favorite activity is the once a month rotation where the students get to do different things like art, music and saying kind things. If he could have lunch with anyone in the world it would be with the military men from Arizona because they serve our country and he wants to be one when he grows up. Right now he is reading Revolutionary War on Wednesday by Mary Pope Osborne. He admires his cousin Michael because he always helps him when he doesn't understand things like homework and other things. His favorite song is by Soulja Boy but doesn't know what the name of the song. After high school he wants to go to college, get a degree then go to the Navy. His dream job is to be a shoe designer for Nike and his dream car is a gold Chevy Camaro. His favorite place in Tucson is Toys-R-Us because there is a bunch of toys to play with. His hidden talent is playing basketball. Esiae had perfect attendance for the 1st quarter and continues to attend school on a regular basis. His teacher says he is a hard worker and always tries his best to understand what is being taught.



Student Spotlight Elementary

Pascua Yaqui Tribe

Aliya Alvarez is a 10 year old 4th grader at Safford Elementary. She loves reading and playing with the jump rope. Outside of school she loves softball. She would like to have lunch with her cousin Jose because they are really close. She just finished reading *The Pillowcase Detective*. Aliya likes to listen to the song *It Girl*. She would like to play for the Arizona Wildcat softball team and when she graduates she is not sure what she wants to do, but she does want to work for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe. She also wants to cruise around in a new Mustang. Her favorite place to hang is at the Park Mall and she says that not to many people know that she can shoot hoops. Well Aliya, step up to the plate and hit one out of Potam Park!



Jayden Miguel is 9 years old and attends Kellond Elementary School. He is a member of the Tohono O'odham Nation. Jayden is in Mr. Leong's 4th grade class. Jayden's favorite subjects in school are Science and Social Studies. Outside of school, he likes to play tag, hide and seek, and play with action figures with his relatives. He enjoys going places and seeing new things; he likes to stay busy. His favorite sports are basketball, football and soccer. His favorite professional football team is the Washington Redskins. His dream car is a Camaro or a Tahoe. If Jayden could have lunch with anyone it would be Michael Jordan. His favorite place to go to is Mount Lemmon. His favorite foods are ribs, hamburgers, and pizza. His favorite restaurants are Peter Piper Pizza and Little Mexico. Jayden is thinking about attending the University of Arizona when he gets older, but he's not sure just yet. Jayden's dream job is to be a policeman when he grows up.

Jack Betters is 8 years old and attends Kellond Elementary School. He is a member of the Tohono O'odham Nation. Jack is in Ms. Frajardo's 3rd grade class. Jack's favorite subject in school is Physical Education. Outside of school, he likes to play his PSP, watch cartoon network, and go to the park to fly his kite. His favorite sports are soccer, football, and basketball. His favorite professional football teams are Pittsburg Steelers and Arizona Cardinals. If Jack could have lunch with anyone, he'd like to have lunch with teachers from all over the world because teachers are interesting to him. If Jack could go anywhere in the world, he'd like to go to New York and Japan. He wants to go to Japan so he can learn the language. He's interested in Japan because his teacher read a book about Japan and he wants to learn more. Jack's dream job is to be a monster truck driver and a professional baseball player.

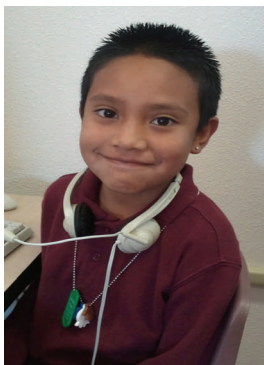
Pascua Yaqui Tribe

Misael Soto is a 9 year old 4th grader at Safford Elementary. He enjoys math and likes playing basketball and soccer at lunch. In his free time Misael plays football with his brother. He would like to have lunch with his mom because she means the world to him. Misael likes reading *The Guinness Book of World Records*. He admires his mom because she takes care of the family. Misael likes to listen to LMAFO and when no one is watching he likes to bust a groove. Misael would love to play in the NFL as a lineman, protecting the quarterback for the Pittsburgh Steelers. When he can drive he would love to cruise a Mustang. His favorite place to hang in Tucson is at the Pima County Fair. Baseball would be a hidden talent that Misael has, but I don't think it is that hidden. Misael, go for it and someday you will read about your own records.



Student Spotlight Elementary

Richard Garcia Estrada is in second grade at Johnson Primary and a member of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe. He is a seven year old student in Ms. Lansdale's class. Richard said his favorite subjects are math and reading. His favorite book is about the Tortoise and the Hare. He likes when there are plays presented at school and he loves to do the science activities that involve balloon rockets, bubbles and parachutes. He loves his mom, dad, brothers and sisters and his nana. When he goes home he makes himself a sandwich and then he plays outside or at the park. His favorite food is spaghetti and he loves to eat at Denny's with his family. When he grows up he wants to be a police officer so he can help people and save them if they need him.



Angelica Quintero is in 2nd grade at Naylor K-8 School in Mrs. Tylutki's class. She is Navajo. She is 7 years old. She has three siblings that also attend Naylor. She likes to watch T.V. when she is at home, but couldn't think of her favorite show; she likes a lot of them. At school she likes Math and is good at it. She likes to play games in the sandbox outside during recess. She would love to go to lunch with her grandma (who she loves so much) they would go to Chop Stix! She is lucky because she gets to visit her grandma a lot. Her favorite color is purple. She enjoyed a book that we read together called The Three Little Sheep. Her favorite food is spaghetti and pizza. Not everyone knows that she is a good artist and she is good at roller skating.



Savanna Alvarez is in Mr. Morales' second grade class at Johnson primary and is a member of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe. Savanna loves both math and science because they get to play games and in science they do things and make things happen. Her favorite things to do at school are read and play with her friend Isabel on the playground. Her favorite books are about Clifford the Big Red Dog. After school she likes to play with her sister Sanae and watch her brothers play too. She loves to eat at Chili's with her mom and her favorite thing to eat is a hamburger anywhere! She loves to spend time with her family and they all know she likes the color pink. Savanna likes to listen to the radio when she is at home. When she grows up she wants to be a singer and perform on stage at the AVA (Anselmo Valencia Amphitheater).

Jacob Vega is a 3rd grade student in Mrs. Vilasenor's class at Naylor K-8 School. He is 8 years old and will be 9 years old very soon! He is Hopi. His favorite thing to do in class is work on the computers and during recess he enjoys playing soccer. When he is at home he enjoys doing his homework, brushing his teeth, taking showers and eating! His favorite thing to eat is pepperoni pizza. If he could take anyone to lunch he would love to take his mom to McDonald's. He loves sports! He just finished playing football in which he played quarterback; he would love to grow up and play for Pueblo High School like his dad did. He would also like to play quarterback for The U of A and then professionally for the Raiders. His favorite car is a Mustang and he would love it in his favorite color black. Not everyone knows that he is a good bowler and he gets lots of spares.



Student Spotlight Elementary

Alina Sierra is eight years old, Tohono O'odham and a second grader at Carrillo Elementary School. Mrs. Barraza her teacher comments that Alina is a very good student who always comes to school with a bright smile. She is always helpful to other classmates and the teacher. She works hard on doing her very best in reading, writing, and math. She is generous with her kind words and is dedicated to always doing her very best. Her favorite subject is writing because you get to write a lot and read books that you have in your desk. Her fun activity is math games plus reading games and at home enjoys riding her bike and playing hide-and-seek. Alina would like to eat lunch with her friend Esperanza because she is so nice. Alina likes to read Dr. Seuss books because they are funny and you have fun when you read them. She admires her mom because she cooks for her and her family. Alina wants to be a teacher because she can teach the kids how to read, write, and also do math. Her talent is writing because she can write stories. Her favorite place in Tucson is going to her nina's house or to school her favorite car would be a convertible.



Giovanni Alvarez is 9 years old and a fourth grader at Maldonado Elementary School. He is a member of the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe and his favorite subject is Science because he enjoys working on Science Projects. Giovanni participates in the 21st Century



Program afterschool. He is learning how to play the guitar. When Giovanni is not in school, he likes to play basketball with his older brother Brandon. If Giovanni could have lunch with anyone, he would like to have lunch with his Tata Richard because he has not seen him in a while.

Giovanni is currently reading Mucha Lucha The Joke Book by Naomi Plume. Giovanni admires his mom the most because if he doesn't understand his homework she helps him with it. His favorite artist are the Black Eyed Peas. Giovanni plans to go to college after he graduates from high school. His dream job is to be a mechanic because his dad is one. He thinks it would be fun to take apart, fix and put back together automotive parts. His dream car is a red Camaro. Giovanni's favorite place in Tucson is Mount Lemmon because you get to play in the snow.

Damanick Martinez is eight years old and a 2nd grader at Miller Elementary. He has done an outstanding job of being in school everyday and received perfect attendance for the first quarter. His favorite subject in Ms. Borboa's class is math. Outside of school he enjoys drawing pictures of animals, especially cheetahs because of their great speed. Playing football and dodge ball with his brother are also some of his favorite things to do. Damanick has a stupendous time eating at Golden Corral where he dips strawberries into the chocolate fountain. If he could have lunch with anyone it would be with Michael Jackson. His goals for the future are to become a policeman and keep bad people off the streets. He also dreams of one day driving around town in a black Mustang while listening to Lil' Wayne on the stereo.

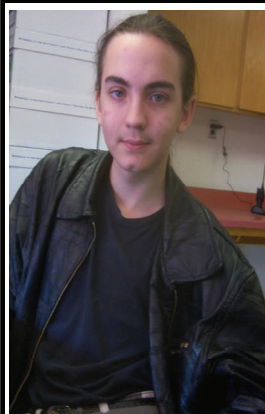


Faith Jose is 6 years old and a first grader at Maldonado Elementary School. She is a member of the Tohono O'odham Nation and her favorite subject is Math because it is fun. She enjoys drawing to solve math problems. When Faith is not at school, she enjoys playing Baseball with her brother Orion. If Faith could have lunch with anyone she would like to have lunch with her friend Iliana because she is a good friend.

Faith is currently reading Sport Will Try by Claire Daniel. One person who has really helped Faith is one of her classmates, Jose. He has helped her a lot with Reading. Faith plans to get a job after she graduates from high school, she is undecided on which kind of job at this time. Faith likes red cars. Her favorite place in Tucson is the Park Place Mall because she enjoys eating chicken at the Food Court.



Student Spotlight Middle School



Daniel Conrad is an 8th grader in the self-contained Gifted and Talented Education program at Alice Vail Middle School and a member of the White Mountain Apache Tribe. Daniel's favorite class is Band. He plays the Bass Clarinet and is First Chair and only chair. Daniel loves his instrument in spite of the fact that the school Bass Clarinet is very old. Outside of school Daniel pursues hobbies like archery and he'd love to find a rookery where he could learn to train a hawk. Genghis Khan would be Daniel's lunch date given the chance. He finds the conqueror's life fascinating and wonders how anyone could take over half of civilization in less than 20 years. He admires an Ancient Eastern Roman Empire military leader, Bellsaurius. He loves studying ancient history and is currently reading fantasy books Inheritance and Clash of Kings. When it comes to music he enjoys traditional rock like Green Day and in particular an instrumental Eminence Symphony "One-Winged Angel." Daniel is applying to go to University High School and/or Sahuaro High School. He plans on attending college and his dream job would be as an architect. His dream car would be a Jeep or dune buggy or 4-wheel drive Hummer. He loves to go to Mount Lemmon and hike. His hidden talent is writing fiction and drawing floor plans.

Sarah Arvicio is 13 years old and in the 7th grade at Maxwell Middle School. She is a member of the Tohono O'odham Nation. She has four brothers and two sisters. Sarah was recognized for her perfect attendance at Maxwell. Sarah's favorite subject in school is Social Studies. She plays volleyball in a club for Tucson Juniors and for her school. She enjoys playing football and wrestling with her brothers when she isn't in school. Her favorite professional football team is the Dallas Cowboys. Sarah enjoys listening to hip-hop. Her favorite restaurant is Joe's Crab Shack. She plans to attend the University of Arizona. Sarah's dream job is to become a nurse because she likes to help people.

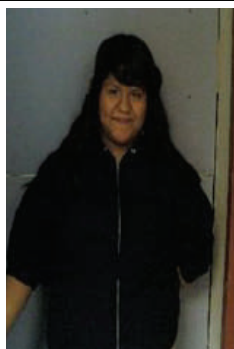
Amanda Conrad is a 6th grader in the Self-Contained Gifted and Talented Education program at Alice Vail Middle School and a member of the White Mountain Apache Tribe. She took up playing the flute this year and has worked her way to first chair in the school band, and of course this is her favorite class. She



loves to read and her favorite books are The Hunger Game Series because of the rich writing style of the author. Amanda loves to draw fantasy creatures and described one that is part serpent, dragon and human. Her favorite place to visit is Reid Park for swimming at the Edith Ball pool with her mother and friends. If Amanda could have lunch with anyone, she'd choose her friends Rhiannon, Robin, Emily, Caitlyn, Ashlynn, Emmie and Ray her closest classmates. Amanda admires her father who has passed for his enduring optimism in spite of serious health conditions including near blindness. She likes to listen to soft rock on the radio and one station she enjoys is 94.9 FM. Amanda has a very clear vision for her future. She plans on attending Yale University to study medicine, attend medical school to become a pediatrician, marry and raise three girls and one boy in a very large house.

I would like to recognize one of my 8th grade students. Nathan Ramon is an 8th grader here at Ft. Lowell - Townsend K-8. Nathan has been in my math class for 6th, 7th, and now 8th grade. He has made big strides as a math student; he cares about his math abilities and has improved and is a more mature person. The reason I am writing this recommendation is we are making major schedule changes and I will no longer teach 8th graders. I will miss Nathan I thought he should know formally. Mr. C. Wilkinson

Melissa Hernandez attends Wakefield Middle School and is in the 7th grade. She is a proud member of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe. If Melissa could eat with anyone it would be with President Obama because she would like to know what his favorite hobby is and what he likes to do most. Her favorite class is Social Studies because it's interesting learning about the Civil War. She's very interested in trying out for the Soccer team because she loves to play the game. Her dream car would be a new convertible purple Buggy Volkswagen. Her dad inspires her the most because he is always pushing her to continue with her education and would like her to attend college. Her favorite place in Tucson is the Harkins Movie Theatre because this is where she spends quality time with her sister.



Student Spotlight Middle School

Esai Flores is a 14 year old 8th grader at Mansfeld Middle School. He is a member of the Tohono O'odham Nation. His favorite class is Science because his teacher makes it fun, explains everything well, and doesn't put pressure on anyone. Outside of school Esai is apart of Tribal Images Youth Council and always tries to keep fit. If given the choice to eat lunch with anyone in the world, it would be with any rap artist because it is something he is interested in and wants to know more about. Right now he is reading The Contender by Robert Lipsyte . The person he admires the most is his dad and brother because they explain why he should or shouldn't do certain things. They hope he will learn from their mistakes. One of his favorite songs is, "HiiiPower" by Kendrick Lamar. His plans after high school are to go to a university and go into the medical field. He wants to go back and help his tribe by working for them. His dream job is to be a music producer. His dream car is a Blue '66 Chevy Impala. His favorite place in Tucson is Tumamoc Hill because that is where he runs/walks to stay fit. His hidden talent is coming up with beats or as he likes to call it producing melodies! Esai is a very hard working student! He was on Honor Roll the first quarter and continues to strive for excellence in and outside of school. I truly believe he will make a difference in this world!!

I want to give a shout out to Rene Thomas, 8th grader at Mansfeld Middle School. His Language Arts teacher encouraged him to enter a Youth Poetry Slam where he placed 4th out of 15 people. He has written poems for about four years and until now, it was kept a secret. Way to go Rene!! Here is one of the two poems he read:

A,B,C,D...
 The pale skin of a man
 Tells me to stop
 He says I'm a dark-brown
 Native
 He says you can't learn
 Your people never have
 Well look at me now
 I'm in middle school
 Doing my work, writing poems
 Look at you in the Insane asylum
 Insanity
 Because I proved you wrong
 I've learned how to
 Count
 Read
 Speak
I'VE PROVED YOU WRONG.

Letisha Cordova-Gastelum is 11 years old and a sixth grader at Hohokam Middle School. She is a member of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe and her favorite classes are Math because she likes to add and subtract fractions and Science because she likes to learn about the weather and working on science projects. Letisha participates in the 21st Century Program afterschool. She enjoys working with the Success Maker Program in Math. When Letisha is not in school she has enjoyed playing Softball with the Munsters as an Outfielder. If Letisha could have lunch with anyone she would choose to have lunch with her friends Alexis, Asael, Alejandra and Alyssa because they are her best friends, they make her laugh and they are awesome to talk to. One of the books that Letisha is currently reading is Diary of a Wimpy Kid by Jeff Kinney. Letisha admires her friend Alexis the most because she is funny, she makes Letisha laugh and she makes Letisha feel happy when she is sad. Letisha's favorite artist is J. Cole because she likes to listen to his songs. Letisha plans to attend the U of A to become a Veterinarian. Letisha's dream job is to be a Veterinarian because she enjoys working with animals. Letisha's favorite place is Mesa, AZ because they get to visit fun places. One of Letisha's talents is playing Soccer.



Anesia Cordova-Gastelum is 11 years old and a sixth grader at Hohokam Middle School. She is a member of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe and her favorite class is Art because she likes to draw and paint. Anesia participates in the 21st Century Program afterschool. She enjoys working with the Success Maker Program in Math. When Anesia is not in school she has enjoyed playing Softball with the Munsters as a 2nd Base Player. If Anesia could have lunch with anyone, she would like to have lunch with her Mentor Rachel because she is fun to talk to and she brings her presents. Anesia is currently reading Junie B. Jones by Barbara Park. Anesia admires her older sister Dora the most because she loves her and Dora encourages her. Her favorite artist is B5 because she likes their music. Anesia plans to attend the U of A to become a Pediatrician after she graduates from high school. Her dream job is to become a Pediatrician because she enjoys working with children. Anesia's favorite place is Phoenix, AZ because she gets to visit new places that are fun. One of Anesia's talents is playing Basketball.



Student Spotlight Middle School



Jelani Howard is a 12 year old 7th grader at Roskruge Bilingual Magnet School and is a member of the Tohono O'odham Nation. His favorite class is P.E. because he gets to go outside and run around. Jelani is involved with Tribal Images Youth Council; he is very athletic and is involved with many sports like basketball, football and track. If he could

have lunch with anyone, it would be with Ray Lewis of the Baltimore Ravens because he wants to know how he got started and if he played any other sports growing up. The person he admires the most is his dad because he is always supportive and encouraging in sports and in school. His favorite songs are the State Farm Jingles. After high school he wants to go to college to become an Electrical Engineer. His dream job is to be a professional football player. His dream car is a blue or red mustang. His favorite place in Tucson is Fantastic's because there is a lot of games, you get to ride the go karts and play laser tag. His hidden talent is he has a big sense

Norma Esquivias is an 8th grade student at Valencia Middle School. She is 13 years old. She is the daughter of Juan Sr. and Norma Esquivias. She is affiliated with the Pascua Yaqui Tribe. Norma's favorite class is Career Exploration. Her goals are to continue to do well in school. She would like to graduate from the University of Arizona and become a dentist.



Norma is currently on the Honor Roll. Norma enjoys watching and participating in sports. She plays softball and basketball. At school, she is on the basketball team. Coach Lindsay says that she "is an excellent player and a very polite girl. She leads by example..She is a team player. She is co-team captain, voted by the players." Norma loves watching football every Sunday with her Tata. She also enjoys watching the LA Dodgers. Matt Kemp is her favorite player. Norma appreciates her parents, Tio Juan Jr. and Tia Olivia because they are very supportive of her education and sports. They are always there for her. She is a very quiet, respectful girl who does well in sports and school. She is a role model for all. She is a very good girl.

Lucero Cordova

Lucero Cordova is an 8th grade student at Pistor Middle School. She is 13 years old. She is the daughter of Carmen and Rudy Cordova. She is affiliated with the Pascua Yaqui Tribe. Lucero's favorite class is Teen Court. Her teacher, Ms. Rosalie Espinosa, says that Lucero



"is a very involved student, completes all of her work and is a superb role model." Lucero would like to graduate from the University of Arizona. She is currently reading The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo. Lucero's favorite song is Mirror by lil Wayne. If she could have lunch with anyone, she would choose Eminem. "A" Mountain is her favorite place in Tucson. Lucero enjoys playing basketball with her brother. She admires her sister, Rosalinda. Lucero is a very respectful, quiet, studious girl. She is a role model for all students.

Monique Liera is 13 years old and in the 8th grade at Maxwell Middle School. She is a member of the Tohono O'odham Nation. She has two brothers and one sister. She was recognized for her perfect attendance at Maxwell. Monique's favorite subject in school is math. She enjoys spending time helping her dad work on the car after school. She also likes helping her dad working or fixing things around the house. She likes going on family outings. Monique is currently on the basketball team at her school. Her favorite professional teams are the L.A. Lakers and Arizona Cardinals. Monique's favorite food is Chinese food. She enjoys listening to hip-hop. Monique plans to attend either Harvard or Yale University. Her dream job is to become a lawyer.



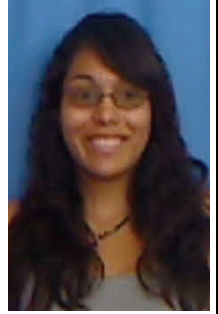
Student Spotlight High School

Angelica Bracamonte is a junior at Pueblo High School and is a proud member of Pascua Yaqui Tribe. Her favorite class is journalism because she gets to express her thoughts and other things that are important to her. She would like to try out for the softball team and is part of the African American Culture Club. If she could have lunch with anyone it would be Kobe Bryant, because he is a great athlete and inspires other athletes. Even though he has won championships he seems to always lead his team and inspire his fans.

The book she is reading right now is Ceremony. She likes this book because it has a lot to do with Native Americans. Angelica admires her mom because she has always been there for her and is a single mom that struggles, but everything seems to always work out for her. Her favorite song is "Shot for Me" by Drake because of the meaning behind this song. Angelica would love to go into the Military after high school and if that doesn't work she'll attend Pima Community College and transfer to ASU. Her passion is writing so she'll be studying Journalism. Her dream car is a Black Cutless Supreme, all chrome. Her favorite place in Tucson is "A" mountain because she can see the whole city. Her hidden talent is writing poems.



Gloria Pena is seventeen years old, a member of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe and attends Tucson High. Her favorite class is third period Teachers Aide with Ms. McKenna who is one of the people she admires most along with Catrina Palimo. After school Gloria works with Sewa Uusim.



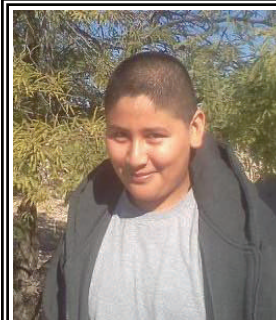
If she could have lunch with anyone it would be with Victor and Tomas from Smoke Signals. Currently Gloria isn't reading anything but does like the book The Truth of Native American Folk Tales. Her favorite artists are Keyshia Cole and Ne-Yo. After high school Gloria plans on attending Pima Community College to study culinary arts. Her dream car is a Chrysler 300: black and green with a picture of Gir on the hood, black interior, and green stitching with her initials on the head rest. Gloria's favorite place in Tucson is the Phoenix Village. Her hidden talent is that she is good with animals, especially horses.

Alejandra Valenzuela is seventeen years old, a member of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe and attends Tucson High. Her favorite class is sixth period English. When not in school Alejandra likes to hang out with her friends. The person she admires most is her cousin Carmen. Alejandra likes "How to Love" by Lil Wayne. After high school she plans on attending Pima Community College to become an RN. Alejandra's dream car is a Chrysler 300 or Mustang GT black and purple with a paint job of Hello Kitty on the hood. Her favorite place is the park.



Alexis Valenzuela is a Junior at Cholla High School and a member of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe. Her favorite class is American Government. Alexis is an IMPACT Mentor and is involved in AVID at school. Afterschool she does boxing. The persons she would chose to have lunch with are her mom and

nana because she enjoys being with them. The Scarlet Letter is the book she is reading at this time. Mom is the person she admires the most and says she is my hero. AJ and Sergio Castillo are her favorite artists. Llorar Y Llorar is her favorite song. After high school she plans to attend the University of Arizona. A Camaro is her dream car. Becoming a Pharmacist is her dream job. Her favorite place in Tucson is her Nana and Tata's home; it has a lot of wonderful memories and family times. Her hidden talents are doing hair and make-up. Alexis is doing really well in school this year.



Andres Flores is 14 years old and a freshman at Cholla High School. He is a member of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe. Taking pictures for the yearbook is his favorite class. Luis Gonzales, a former Diamondback player is who Andres would like to have lunch with. He admires his parents the most because they treat people with care.

"Welcome to the Family" by Avenged Sevenfold is his favorite song. His plans after high school is to attend NAU or Grand Canyon University. His dream job is to be a baseball player for the Arizona Diamondbacks. His home is his favorite place to be where he likes being with his family. Andres always has a smile. He comes in and asks for tutoring to help bring up his grades.



Student Spotlight

Sports Edition!

Alfonso Billy
16, Sophomore, Rincon High School

Alfonso is a sophomore at Rincon High School who is no stranger to sports. This year he is participating in JV football and track.

On the JV Rincon Rangers football team he plays the positions, cornerback and running back. His favorite thing about being on the football team is getting to know other people and being part of the team environment.

Good luck # 20!



Emilio Munoz-Shade
17, Senior, Palo Verde Magnet High School
Pascua Yaqui Tribe

Emilio has been playing baseball since before he can remember. He was playing on the Varsity Titan baseball team. His position he performs on the team is outfield. Their biggest team rival are Catalina and Amphi.

What he enjoys most about being on the team is all the fun he has and how the team becomes like your family. Since baseball has been part of his life for so long, he feels it really helped him stay out of trouble.

Good luck # 10!



Ariana Yellowhorse
18, Senior, Santa Rita High school
Navajo Nation



Ariana is a senior at Santa Rita High School who is looking forward to a career in the Army after high school. This year she has participated in two sports, volleyball and soccer.

She has been playing volleyball since 5th grade and soccer since 7th grade. Her biggest team rival for both is Catalina Magnet High School. If she had to pick one thing she enjoys most about being on a team it would be making friends, and the bonding that occurs.

Good luck # 10!

Kirkland Pedro
16, Junior, Rincon High School
Tohono O'odham Nation

Kirkland is a junior at Rincon High School and a proud student who is active in multiple sports this year. He is currently on the JV football team and track team. For the JV Rincon Rangers football team he plays the receiver and safety.

His favorite thing about being on the football team is getting to know the other players and being part of a team. The biggest team rival so far this year is Santa Rita High School. Next year he hopes to be on the varsity team.

Good luck # 7!





Native American Studies Department

Government Programs and Community Outreach

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GOVERNING BOARD: Miguel Cuevas, President; Adelita S. Grijalva; Michael Hicks; Dr. Mark Stegeman

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Important Dates

Upcoming Dates to Remember

December 19	Grading Day-No School
Dec 20—Jan 2	Winter Recess
Jan 3	Third quarter begins; report cards go home
Jan 16	MLK Day-No School
Feb 8	Parent/Teacher Conference K-12

MISSION

NASD strives to collaboratively support the efforts of Tucson Unified School District to meet the unique educational and culturally related academic needs of American Indian and Alaska Native students enrolled in TUSD schools so that they can achieve the same challenging state standards as all students.

