

# Native Ed News



March 2022



## Second Semester Kicks Off

### *A time of revitalization & rebuilding*

As I begin my fourth month in this role, I am hopeful and excited to spend more in-person time to make connections with students, their families, and the tribal community. Due to the program being inactive for a period of time, a significant focus has been on structuring systems, gathering information, meeting with high need students, and setting goals and objectives.

The first priorities were to sort and facilitate the receipt and delivery of 127 Native/Indigenous book titles (over 1000 books), which are now available in all of our school libraries! I read to all of the elementary classes across the district utilizing some of the new books including, *We Are Water Protectors*, *Rough Faced Girl*, *Fry Bread* and *Sometimes I Feel Like a Fox*. This was an amazing opportunity for me to begin outreach to teachers and meet students face to face. Last week, I began holding Native book clubs at the elementary level.

Additionally, we were awarded a \$500 grant to start up a Native Youth Mentorship Program. In order to gain feedback, a cultural identity survey was distributed in an effort to learn more about how our Native high school students view their Native identity. The results of this survey will help determine future programs and the new program title. Students should stay tuned for the chance to vote on a new program logo.

There is a lot on the horizon, as planning begins for the 2022-2023 school year. Please the slide deck from the most recent Indian Education Parent Committee Meeting (IEPC) [January 2022 IEPC Meeting](#), which can also be found on the district [website](#).



## Northern Michigan Native American Olympic Hockey Player Wins Silver

"I never processed how few Indigenous players are actually playing hockey around the world," Sault Native Abby Roque said. "Back home, there were so many Indigenous players around, and now I'm sitting here as the only player and first player on the U.S. women's team that's Indigenous. It's a cool moment and something I'm so proud of, but something I obviously want to help change. I want to see more Indigenous players playing the game and making these teams." (ESPN interview)

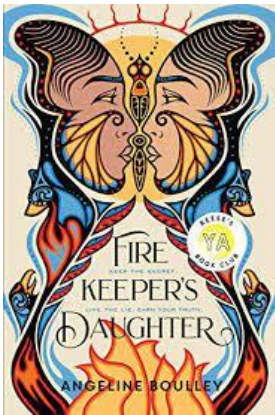
**Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns, in order for me to best advocate and/or support your child's academic, social/emotional and cultural needs.**

## Featured Musical Students



Check out our students, Lillian Bott, Damek Brill and Danae Hickman, who will be performing in the Spring Musical, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* from March 10-12.

**High Schoolers:** Come by Room 111 on Tuesdays or Fridays during lunch or after school to vote for the new name of the program and be entered to win a copy of the *Firekeeper's Daughter*.



## Featured Athletes



Congratulations to Brendan & Trevor Swiss who are headed to the Wrestling State Finals!!

## Area Resources

LTBB Behavioral Health 231-242-1640

LTBB Academic Support 231-242-1480

LTBB Youth Services 231-242-1589



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Middle School: Mon, Wed, & Thurs  
High School: Tues & Friday  
Elementary: Days & Times Vary

## Upcoming Activities

Middle School and High School Talking Circles are back, starting this month!

Elementary book clubs are underway!