



# *Indian Education Newsletter*



## SEPTEMBER 30TH ORANGE SHIRT DAY

Last year our school joined in to recognize September 30th, Orange Shirt Day - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation in the US and Canada. It is a day set aside to acknowledge the effects of the Indian residential school system on children, with efforts toward a healed educational system. The slogan is *Every Child Matters*. Teachers reached out to request that the Indian Edu program collaborate to design an LR specific shirt to commemorate the day and this year was our first showcasing of our own LR orange shirt. Our program worked with Sunflower Graphics and suggested that our design which read "Every Child Matters at LR" also incorporate the 12 feathers similar to the CCT flag which represents the 12 Tribes in our area, and when placed together it was formed in the shape of a heart. (Photo: Elem teachers showcasing their orange shirts.)

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Fall - Spring Activities

Collaboration Partners

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Educational resources  
and student/family  
support

# *October Harvest Night LR, Nespelem School & YDP*





## *Supporting AISES*

This year our LR Middle School teacher Derek Atkins started JH/HS AISES Chapter Club. AISES stands for American Indian Science and Engineering Society. AISES promotes STEM standards – science, technology, engineering and math – and career readiness within these fields. Because AISES overlaps with some of our Indian Edu academic goals, we have been providing some support to help ensure that it continues to grow and be successful.

*A Couple of our goals this year was to strengthen our partnerships and connect with our school families*

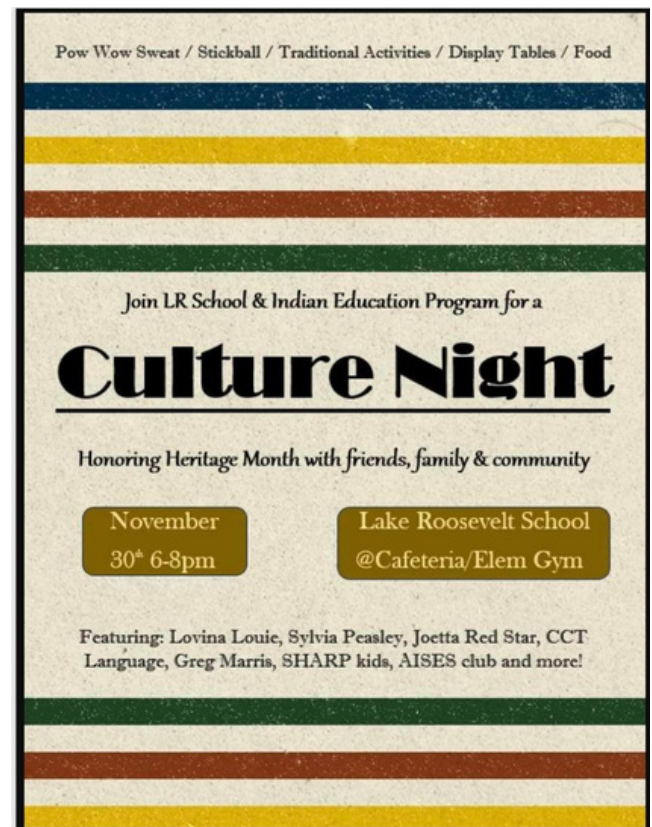
Over the last few years our program has gone through a lot of changes and growth, so we've spend a lot of time negotiating some behind the scenes logistics. This year we wanted to refocus on reconnecting and a couple of our goals this year was to strengthen our partnerships and connect with our school families with some family fun nights. Various programs and groups that we have partnered with this year include: CCT Peacemakers – an elder mentor group which visits from the tribe to work with our K-12 LR students, JH/HS AISES Chapter Club, LR afterschool SHARP Kids, Migrant Program, CCT Youth Development, CCT High School Tribal Language Class, CCT Natural Resource representatives to support the Natural Resources YDP pathways project, and various teacher project support.

# *Native American Heritage Month*



The month of November is Native American Heritage Month. This year we ordered a few large banners with three different designs to display outside the school, celebrating all tribes across the nation. We also joined the CCT YDP program in their theme days, Derek Atkin's Middle School Culture Class did a deer meat drying activity, Ashley Atkins helped with our K-12 Honoring Our Veterans assembly, we hosted a Culture Night for families - which provided dinner, beading, hide painting, pow wow dance instruction, stickball and display tables.

Resources were provided for our teachers and also posted on our website providing information about Native American Heritage Month, Native American Veterans, and Thanksgiving from a Native American Perspective.



# *November Culture Night*





## DEER MEAT DRYING PROJECT

Lake Roosevelt hosted another deer meat drying project during November's Native American Heritage Month. A full evening of preparing the meat, followed by a full day of smoking meat during the school hours. We had presenters from Mt. Tolman (Kevin Manuel), CCT Natural Resource Enforcement (Neil Johnson, Victor Landeros), along with David Cox. All of this was led by Middle School Science and Culture teacher Mr. Derek Atkins. When the drying was complete, students cut the deer meat and put them in bags to hand out to their elders/adults of their choice. All in all, a very successful week of learning about taking care of deer from the moment you leave for the hunt to the preservation process. Thank you to our teachers and presenters, and thank you to all the students who demonstrated respect and took home some new skills.



## *Supporting LR Staff Projects*

One of the goals over the course of several years was to transition to cultural activities becoming part of the regular educational experience at LR. We wanted to be able to support our staff in their various roles as educators in taking the lead in integrating Native American Culture into various learning projects. The Middle School Culture Class with teacher Mr. Atkins is going on a second year visiting the Colville Tribe's Government Center, visiting various departments and meeting the CCT Business Council. Our High School Librarian Ginger Dockstader has been doing some incredible work growing the Native American Literature content in our library. Teachers have shared some creative projects for teaching and re-teaching some of the cultural curriculum content provided and our High School Anthropology teacher Gretchen Whitelaw has started some projects with her students working with local Indigenous plants. We are really excited to see how that goes and how other classes can expand on it.



# February "Be My Huckleberry" Family Night



# Cultural Curriculum Progress

Overview Written By Lisa Carson

Cultural Curriculum has come a long way over the years. And with the legislation requiring Since Time Immemorial: Tribal Sovereignty in Washington state or other tribally-developed curriculum be taught in WA schools, we were eager to support implementing it along with the development of the Colville Confederated Tribes (CCT) contribution.

When we first started on this curriculum support project around 2017 our LR Indian Edu program reached out to various CCT partners and attended Since Time Immemorial conferences and workshops. We also set up meetings to work with the CCT Tribal Language Department. In the meantime, we were able to promote open-source content (tribal websites, publications tribes participated in and visiting historical landmark/museums). We were also able to bring in presenters from our tribal communities to share about their life experiences.

During 2020-21 we also utilized Braided Education Consulting, a program that offers consultation for co-designing "*Native ways of knowing and doing*". They helped provide networking opportunities and educational discussion. One of our main areas of deliberation was to first seek ways to communicate what our tribes have in common and also teach about the uniqueness of our 12 tribes. Along these lines we discussed our culture region as Plateau Tribes, our seasonal round and ties to the river. Eventually those working on this project began to form ways to help organize and present a collective introduction to our CCT.

At the end of last year's 2022-23 school year, we were then able to share some of this progress available on our LR website as an open-source *Learning About the Colville Confederated Tribes Resource Guide*. We were also able to share this progress with the new CCT Curriculum Developer Kamea Pino and her team was able to utilize some of the material, along with what they had been working on, in their recently released CCT intro curriculum, titled *Through History, The Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation*. Kamea has also been able to share more of what she's been working on for local CCT schools this year.

It has been several years working toward these first stage goals and the various areas of support have been greatly appreciated. We are thankful for the contributors from the CCT, OSPI Native Education, surrounding CCT schools, Braided Education Consulting, and a lot of grassroots work from those on our Indian Education parent/guardian committee.

**WEBPAGE:**

**GCDSD.ORG/DOMAIN/101**

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