THE IEFA BULLETIN

OCTOBER 2025

Upcoming PIR Opportunities and other Happenings

10/8 and 10/22:
Brothers on Three Book Club
PD Portal # 17280
See information below. 10 spots left!

10/15:
2nd Annual Bison Harvest
10-2 pm, Ag Center

October/November 2025
Indigenous Narratives through Art
Synchronous/Asynchronous Options
PD Portal #17300
See HERE for course description

Montana Professional Learning Collaborative PD Options

REGISTER NOW

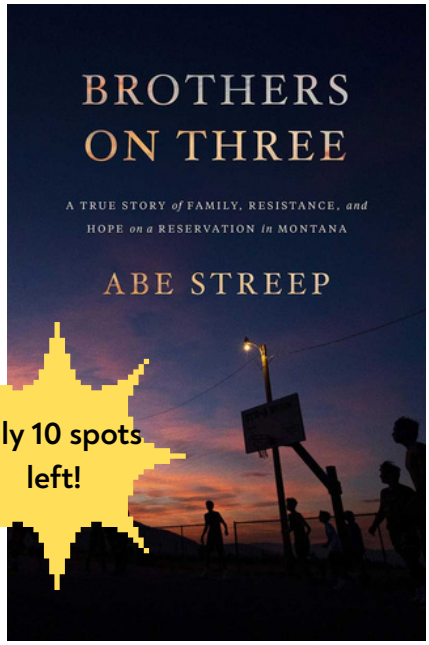
IEFA BOOK CLUB | FALL 2025

Brothers on Three
by Abe Streep



October 8th, October 22nd + reading on your own time
Course #17280

Brothers on Three is not simply a story about high school basketball, about state championships and a winning team. It is a book about community, and it is about boys on the cusp of adulthood, finding their way through the intersecting worlds they inhabit and forging their own paths to personhood.



Only 10 spots left!

Contact an IEFA Coach

EK - 5 : Keila Cross
kcross@mcpsmt.org
Extension 1049

6 - 12 : Charlie Struna
cstruna@mcpsmt.org
Extension 1068

THE IEFA BULLETIN



Wearing traditional or sacred items from another culture as a costume, such as headdresses or face paint, is not appropriate.

Native Costumes

With Halloween coming soon, its important to remind ourselves and students that Native American costumes are not respectful of our diverse Native cultures. Here are some articles to help with understanding.

[That Indian Princess Costume is Not Honoring Native Culture](#) by First Nations Development Institute

[How to Be Respectful of Indigenous Culture During Halloween](#) by Eighth Generation

[Why is there such a fuss about non-Native people wearing Indian costumes for Halloween?](#) by Anton Treuer


Hiking with Rangers



Glacier Park 2025

Through a Hopa Mountain Grant, NASS took 16 high school students to GNP for a 3 day, 2 night excursion. Students camped at St. Mary, went on a 7 mile, ranger-led hike, toured museums, heard stories from Blackfeet Elders, and attended culture and Language classes at Browning High School and the Buffalo Hide Academy. We are very grateful for such a nice trip!

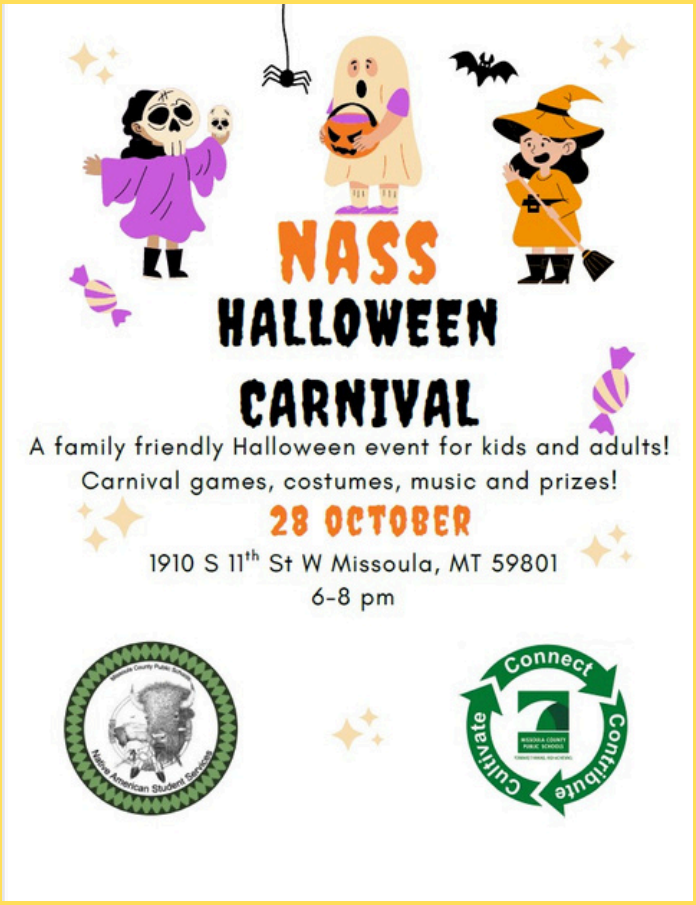

Mr. Kicking Woman teaches language


Larry Ground tells campfire stories

Native American Student Services Community Events

All are welcome | 25-26 NASS Event Calendar





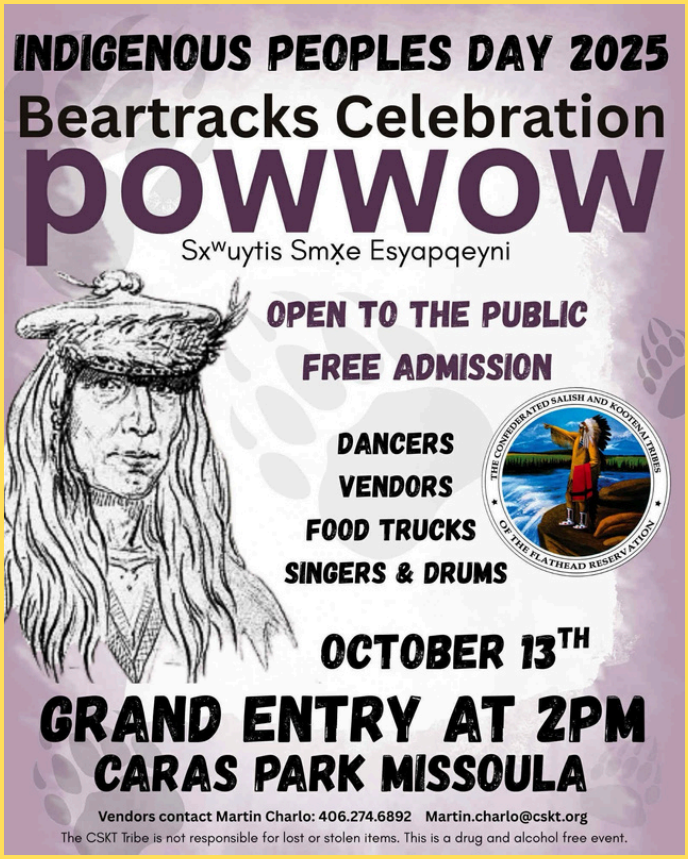
Want to share NASS event flyers in your classroom newsletter?

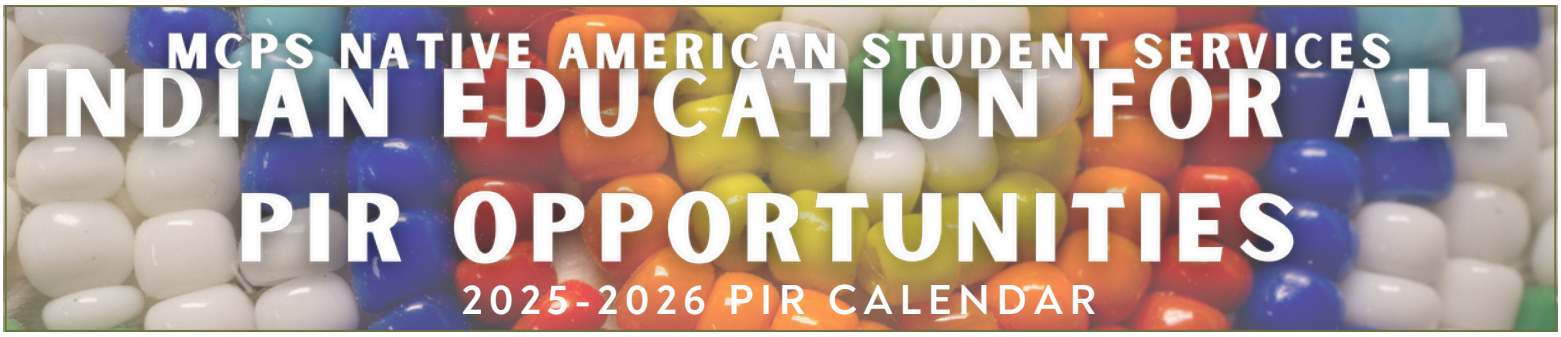
Click here to download

ORANGE SHIRT DAY SEPTEMBER 30th

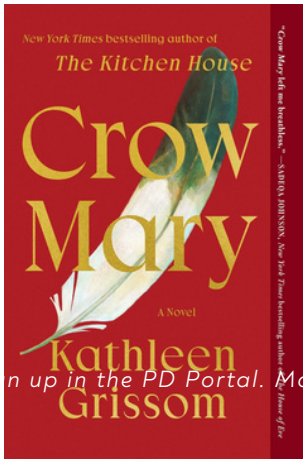
EVERY CHILD MATTERS

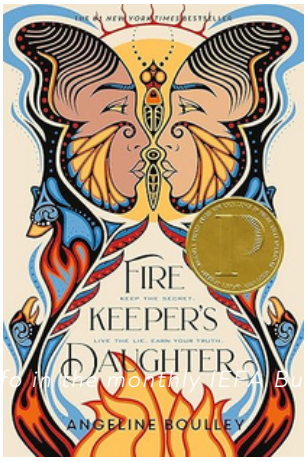
OrangeShirt Day, also called National Day for Truth and Reconciliation or National Day of Remembrance, honors the healing journey of residential boarding school survivors and their families.





DATES	LEARNING OPPORTUNITY (Credits offered)
October/November TBD	Indigenous Narratives Through Art: IEFA MAM AND MMAC Museum Tour (4)
October 8 & 22	Book Club-*Brothers on Three* by Abe Streep (6)
November 19	Let's Cook! Traditional Foods and Herbs (3)
January 13 & 27	Book Club-*Crow Mary* by Kathleen Grissom (6)
February 10-24	Identifying and Countering Indigenous Bias, asynchronous (4)
March/April Dates TBD	Understanding and Enjoying Powwows self-paced online + in-person at the MCPS Native Youth Powwow (4)
April 14 & 28	Book Club-*Fire Keeper's Daughter* by Angeline Boulley (6)





MCPS NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENT SERVICES

IEFA Coaching Cycle PIR-Earn 2-12 Flex Credits

WHAT is a coaching cycle PIR?	DATES-YOU PICK!
An IEFA coaching cycle is a structured approach where a coach and teacher collaboratively work to improve instruction and student learning through a series of steps: goal setting, planning, implementation, monitoring, and reflection. We can work on a topic or lesson of your choice or the coach can help you find a lesson to integrate into what you normally do.	These cycles can be anywhere from 2-12 PIR hours, at your convenience. The coach and teacher will work together to create a schedule.

More information available in the PD Portal and monthly IEFA Bulletin.

ATTEND COMMUNITY EVENTS FOR PIR

Engage in cultural events or workshops to broaden your knowledge of Montana's tribal people and their customs. Take your knowledge back to your school or classroom by creating lessons from what you've learned. Talk to an IEFA coach to see how this can work for you.

POWWOWS AND CEREMONIES	**MUSEUMS AND CENTERS**	**HISTORICAL SITES AND LOCAL LANDMARKS**

NASS IEFA Instructional Coaches
EK-5: Keila Cross, kcross@mcpsmt.org, ext. 1049
6-12: Charlie Struna, cstruna@mcpsmt.org, ext. 1068



MISSOULA COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENT SERVICES

> > 2025-2026 COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR < <

EVENT NAME	DATE	TIME	VENUE
Back to School BBQ	Monday, Aug. 25	5-6:30 pm	MCPS Admin B
American Indian Heritage Day Round Dance	Friday, Sept. 26	6 - 9 pm	C.S. Porter Middle School
SEPTEMBER 26: AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE DAY (MONTANA)			
SEPTEMBER 30: ORANGE SHIRT DAY - NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE (US/CANADA)			
OCTOBER 13 INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY (US)			
Halloween Carnival	Tuesday, Oct. 28	6 - 8 pm	Franklin Elementary School
NOVEMBER: NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH			
Moccasin Making Workshop	Monday, Nov. 3 Monday, Nov. 10	5:30-8 pm	MCPS Admin B
Earring Making Workshop	Monday, December 8 Monday, December 15	5:30 -7:30 pm	MCPS Admin B
Bingo	Wednesday, Jan. 14	5:30-7:30 pm	MCPS Admin B
YaYa Dolls Workshop	Monday, Feb.12	5:30 - 7:30 pm	MCPS Admin B
Pouch making Workshop	March 19	5:30 - 7:30 pm	MCPS Admin B
Native Youth Powwow	April 25	12 - 10 pm	Sentinel High School
MAY 5: NATIONAL MISSING & MURDERED INDIGENOUS PERSONS' AWARENESS DAY (US)			
Native Graduates Senior Dinner	Tuesday, May 19	6 - 8 pm	TBA
End of Year Celebration	Tuesday, June 2	5 - 6:30 pm	MCPS Admin B

Native American Student Services

Moccasin Making Workshop

MONDAY NOVEMBER 3RD

&

MONDAY NOVEMBER 10TH

5:30 - 8 PM

Talk to Charlie or Keila if you are
MCPS Staff
and interested in taking for PIR

MCPS ADMIN B
909 SOUTH AVE W
MISSOULA MT 59801

SUPPLIES PROVIDED



Questions? Contact Billie Jo Juneau @ 406-728-2400 or bjuneau@mcpsmt.org

JOIN COMMON GOOD FOR

Wrestling with the Truth of Colonization



TAKING HISTORY FROM THE HEAD TO THE HEART

- Wrestling is a 12 hour training developed and led by Indigenous people to educate non-Indigenous leaders on the history and lasting impacts of colonization
- By confronting the hard truths of colonization and ongoing complicity in its legacy, leaders are prepared to come into respectful relationships with Indigenous peoples

LIMITED SPOTS REGISTRATION REQUIRED

COMMON GOOD MISSOULA

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS
OCTOBER 7TH, 9TH, 14TH, 16TH, 21ST, & NOVEMBER 18TH
4:30-6:30
MISSOULA FOOD BANK COMMUNITY CENTER
LIGHT SNACKS PROVIDED
CGM MEMBERS: FREE
NON-MEMBERS: $250

www.commongoodmissoula.org/events

Questions? Email amber@commongoodmissoula.org

Native American Studies for Teachers Winter '25



"Lightning Hones" courtesy.: of John Isa.iah Pe[illegible] (Blackfeet)

This course will help teachers develop understanding of American Indian history, culture, policy, and contemporary issues to create more comprehensive, accurate Indian Education for All teaching units. The first ten weeks focus intensely on topics specific to Indian Country. The final five weeks specialize in Indian Education for All, including its history and current events, theory, and resources. Participants will have the opportunity to develop a teaching unit or improve a unit, or conduct research toward a future unit, with the support of the instructor.

Instructor: Michelle Mitchell

Guest Speakers

Denise Juneau (Citizen of the Mandan Hidatsa Tribes & Blackfeet Tribe), former Montana Superintendent of Public Instruction · Chris La Tray (Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Metis), 2023-2025 Montana Poet Laureate· Kevin Kicking Woman (Amskapi Pikuni), 2024 Montana Teacher of the Year & BNAS Educator · Mike Jetty (Spirit Lake Dakota), OPI Indian Education Specialist · Michelle Mitchell (Salish & Chippewa Cree), CSKT Tribal Education Director· Dr. Shane Doyle, (Apsaalooke), Scholar & community advocate · Julie Cajune (Salish), Tribal historian · Lark Real Bird (Crow), Language educator · Bill Swaney (Salish), Former CSKT Tribal Education Director· Mike Geboe (Chippewa Cree), Language educator & wellness specialist · Lea Whitford (Blackfeet), Former state legislator; educator · Jordann Lankford (A'aniiih and Nakoda), MAIEC Grant Coordinator · Aaron Brien (Crow), Tribal Historic Preservation Officer · Sidney U. Fellows (Shoshone-Bannock & Chippewa-Cree), Tribal food access advocate · Matt Bell (Nakoda-Aaniiih), OPI Language & Culture Specialist

Course Dates: October 13, 2025-January 3L 2026

Course Cost: $ 50-$ 300 (donate what you can afford)

- Online course with no specific meeting times. October 13, 2025-January 31, 2026
- Y45 OPI renewal units
- Required Text: Everything You Wanted to Know about Indians But Were Afraid to Ask by Anton T reuer (2023 edition).

Ready to get started? Register now

Ready to pay?

Syllabus

Questions? Email us

Chickadee Community Services