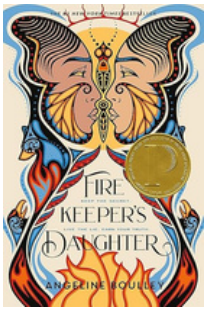
MCPS NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENT SERVICES

IEFA BULLETIN

MARCH 2026

UPCOMING PIR OPPORTUNITIES



Spring Book Club: Firekeeper's Daughter by Angeline Boulley
April 15 and 30
4:00-5:30 pm
Administration Building B, PLL
PD Portal Course # 17378

Understanding and Enjoying Powwows
self-paced online & in person at the MCPS Native Youth Powwow, April 25th.
PD Portal Course #17383
course description



MARCH IS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

LINKS FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING

21 Amazing Indigenous Montana Women to Teach and Learn More About

Learn the History of Female Native American Doctors, Grades 3-12

Resilience: Stories of Montana Indian Women



*Taken fron *Huckleberries, Buttercups, and Celebrations* by Jennifer Greene and Antoine Sandoval

Other Names for MARCH

The Gros Ventre (Aaniiih) word for the month of March is Babôgî Kîdesa, which translates to "broken month". The name refers to the weather patterns, where the days are "broken" with cold mornings followed by warm afternoons.

Other Montana tribes who refer to March as the "Goose Moon" are: Blackfeet/Pikuni & Cree/Anishinaabe

Some tribes call March the "Crusted Snow Moon"

Indigenous Morning Greetings

Does your school participate?

Sharing these greetings through school announcements is an easy way to incorporate IEFA building-wide. If you aren't seeing them, read below for access. It may be more appropriate for your school to show the greetings in homerooms or individual classrooms. Have a building conversation about using them, if you don't.

Indigenous Morning Greetings Project:
Bringing Montana's Indigenous Languages and Knowledge into Classrooms

The Indigenous Morning Greetings project offers weekly, recorded messages to help Montana students and staff start each week in a good way.

These messages provide a warm welcome and words of encouragement through an Indigenous worldview. Messages often include words or phrases in an Indigenous language and offer guidance to help students and staff live well. Each greeting is also paired with prompts for talking circles or reflective writing to allow students and staff to personalize and internalize the messages that are shared.

All schools are welcome to utilize these messages which can be accessed here: Indigenous Morning Greetings Project

This project is supported by the OPI's Tribal Student Achievement and Relations Unit

Artwork by Kamryn Sees The Ground



MARCH 2nd greeting video link

Some February Highlights



Yaya Dolls Workshop



Nadia Askin from CSKT teaches the class



Siblings from Paxson and WMS with their dolls



Mini Moccasin class from the Summit





Ledger Art during Hellgate's Diversity Week





MCPS drum group sings for the crosstown baksetball game at BSHS on 2/17.
Lance Comes at Night prays before the crowd, in the Blackfeet language.



Iniskim creations
by Elementary Students

POUCH MAKING WORKSHOP



Create a Medicine Pouch with Trina Fyant and the NASS Department!

March 19th
5:30 - 7:30 PM

909 South Ave. W
Missoula, MT 59801

Admin Building B
Professional Learning Lab

Limited Spots Available

REGISTER NOW

To sign up, please email Billie Juneau @ bjuneau@mcpsmt.org

19th Annual

IEFA BEST PRACTICES CONFERENCE

East Helena High School

23-24 March

PLANTING THE SEEDS OF KNOWLEDGE, GROWING OUR MONTANA STORY

MITAKUYE OYASIN
WE ARE ALL RELATED



MT OPI IEFA



NASS Community Events Calendar

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	Sentinel High School