

Boozhoo!

American Indian Education Program

**Farmington Area Public Schools
2026-2027
September 29, 2026**



Welcome and Introductions

- **Name**
- **Connection to Farmington Schools**

The purpose of the American Indian Education Parent Committee is to deepen the family-school connection in order to:



Provide continuous support to help students build a positive cultural personal identity



Ensure students learn authentic and true information about their history and culture



Ensure students reach their highest aspirations and provide them with the support they need



Connect families within the community to one another



**Farmington American
Indian Education**



A **circle** represents the life cycle from birth to death and the growth that occurs within it. The circle represents that life in the schools at Farmington is a big part of the journey that each student is on.

An **eagle** represents our ancestors and our connection to the divine. My Unci (oohn chee), a Lakota grandmother, always told me that when you see an eagle, it tells you that you were on the right journey or the right path. The journey in school is something our relatives and ancestors look on with great pride.

The **eagle feathers** represent courage, and deeds of great courage. If you were awarded an eagle feather it was because you did something honorable and had great courage going to school and getting your high school diploma.

The **people** represent the community, the family or group that we belong to. They are strength, the people we lean on, and the people we look to for help. They are also the people that are proud of and honor our accomplishments.

The **star** represents the divine, the great spirit (Tunkasila). The star represents our connection to one of our sacred values; honoring the powers that be.

From Image Artist John Knife Sterner

Partnership for Our Learners



Role of Minnesota Department of Education

- Determine Eligibility
- Allocate Resources
- Approve Aid Applications

Partnership for Our Learners



Role of ISD 192

- Listen
- Advocate for Learners
- Organize Learner Experiences
- Manage Finances
- School Board Connection

Janna Murphy - American Indian Education Advisor

Chris Bussmann- Director of Administrative Services

Trish Schmaltz - Department of Teaching and Learning

Partnership for Our Learners



Role of AIPAC

- Advocate for Learners
- Set Meeting Schedule
- Determine Officers
- Organize Agendas
- Application and Resolution

OPEN- AIPAC Chairperson

American Indian Education Program Eligibility -Minnesota Dept. of Education

To participate in the program districts must have:

- **20 or more American Indian students**
- **An American Indian Parent Advisory Committee (AIPAC)**
- **A submitted and approved aid application**

Dedicated aid for 2026-2027= \$59,000

-58 American Indian students enrolled in ISD 192 as of 10/1/2025

Janna Murphy: American Indian Education Advisor



My name is Janna Murphy. I grew up in Wisconsin and I am blessed to have a big and diverse family. My mother is Czech, Lithuanian and Belgian. My father is Puerto Rican, African American and Cherokee Indian. This beautiful blend made our family of 5. I was a big soccer player and ran track growing up and still love it with a passion today.

My husband and I live in Lakeville, MN. We have 3 kids and two dogs. We love the outdoors and spend a lot of time exploring. Our kids are talented athletes so lots of our days are spent watching them do what they love.

When I do have free time you will see me doing anything creative, active, spending time with friends and helping others.

I am excited to be in this role. I have a LOVE for the youth. My strength is seeing everyone for who they truly are.

Drum and Dance Classes

Classes Begin October 21

Silver Bell Learning Center (Eagan, MN)

Complimentary Dinner Provided

January 27, 2027

- **Farmington “Hosts” Dinner!**

SOUTH OF THE RIVER
DRUM & DANCE CLASSES
Silver Bell Learning Center, 2120 Silver Bell Rd, Eagan, MN 55122

4:30 PM • OPEN GYM
5:30 PM • MEAL
6:00 PM • CLASS

2026

- October 21st
- November 4th
- November 18th
- December 2nd
- December 16th

2027

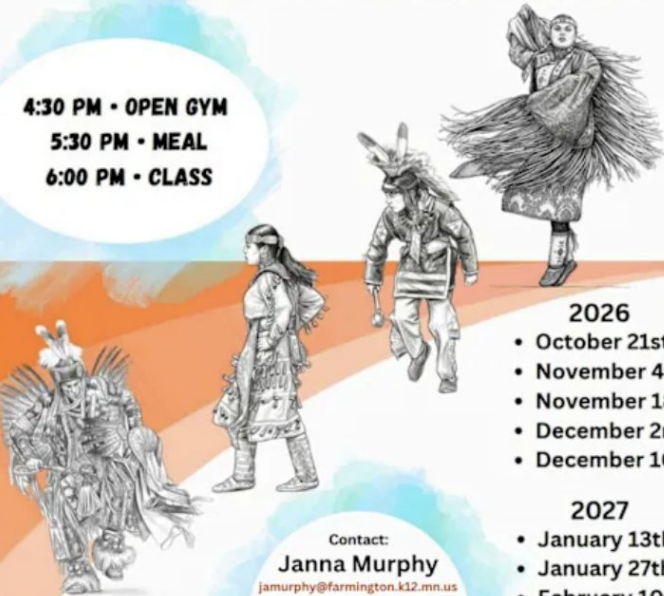
- January 13th
- January 27th
- February 10th
- February 24th
- March 10th
- April 14th
- April 28th

Contact:
Janna Murphy
jamurphy@farmington.k12.mn.us

Register your family:



2027 SOTR POWWOW • MAY 1, 2027



Family Engagement Event

April 28, 2026



YOU'RE INVITED TO A FREE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT EVENT!

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2025, 10 A.M.

**"LEDGER ART" PROJECT & LUNCH
FREE FOR FAMILIES**

Please join us for a free Family Engagement Event on **Saturday, April 5, 2025 at 10 a.m.** in the **Levi P. Dodge Middle School Cafeteria**, located at 4200 208th Street West, Farmington, MN 55024. Artist John Knife Sterner will lead the group in a "Ledger Art" project. Afterward you are invited to stay for lunch, catered by Moo Chicka Poo, and socializing. This event, including food, is free and open to all American Indian families. **To help us plan for food please RSVP using the QR code no later than March 30.**



Meet the Speaker: John Knife Sterner Artist, Teacher and Coach

John Knife Sterner has taught art for more than 29 years. He describes himself as "an Artist, Teacher, Coach, Sicangu Lakota, Parent, Husband, Brother, and Son." Sterner creates art in a variety of media including painting, sculpting, and more. His artwork is intrinsically tied to his cultural heritage. "The plains of Minnesota and South Dakota are my heritage, what makes me who I am. I live in southwestern Minnesota and was born in Flandreau, South Dakota. The opportunity to create art that is culturally incorporating my heritage is an important part of my personal journey to find who I am as a person, instructor, and artist."

RSVP NOW!

<https://bit.ly/4hvybLd>



FARMINGTON
AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Northfield
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
— Celebrating 150 years —



Porky's Sugarbush



Youth Programming

MIGIZI



Snow Snakes



Mni Sóta Maḵoce Workshop

"The land where the water reflects the skies"

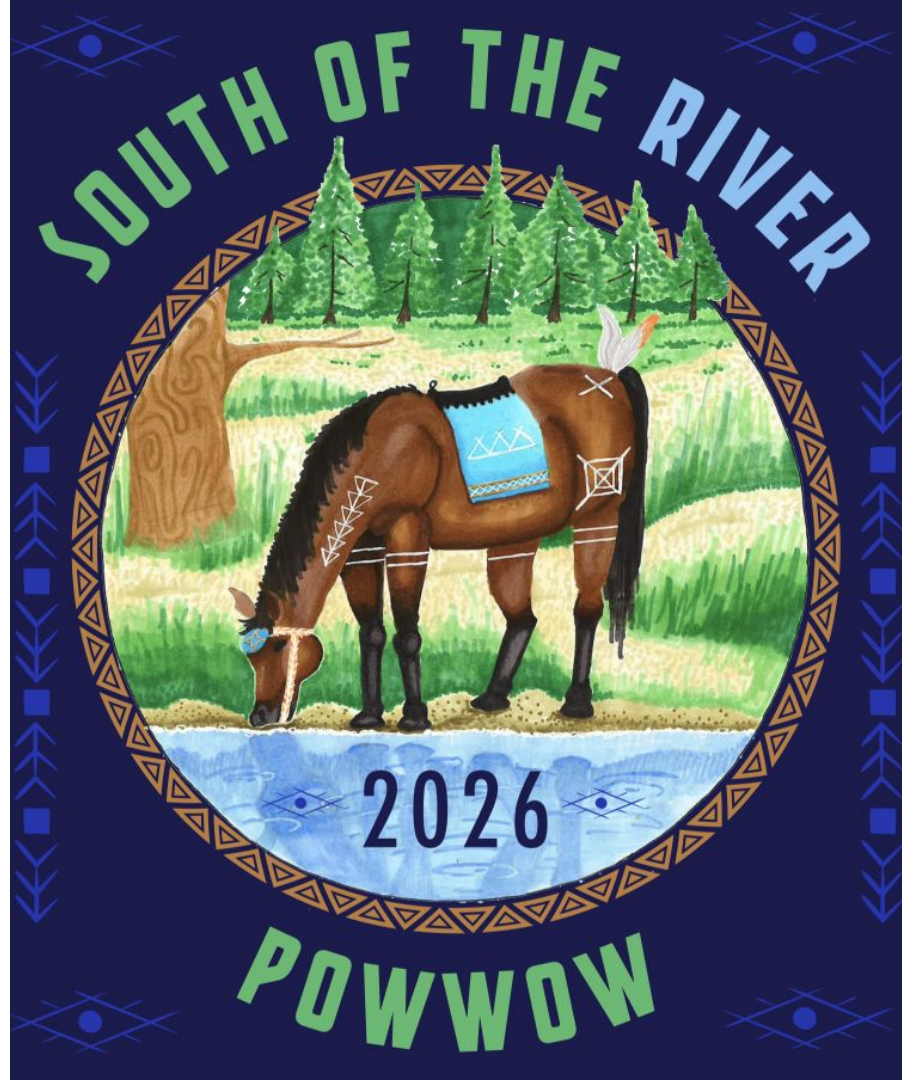
Students will learn about and integrate Dakota values of caring for the land as a relative through learning about Dakota environmental teachings and philosophies. Examining Minnesota as a Dakota place will encourage students to consider their own individual, family, and community connections to place.



May 1, 2027

Burnsville High School

(New flyer to come!)





Graduation Stole Ceremony



Graduation Stole Ceremony



2026-2027 Meeting Dates

September 29 - Meeting

October 27 - Meeting

January 26 - Meeting ***Vote of Concurrence/Non-Concurrence Due March 1**

April 27 - Meeting ***Aid application due by June 1**

April X - Family Engagement Event

May 20 - Graduation Stole Ceremony

Miigwech/Pidamaya



Farmington American Indian Education