

# Title VII Indian Education Program

## Anchorage School District

September/October 2007 Bulletin Updates and Information  
For Parents and Students K through 12



### Title VII Indian Education Program Summer Enrichment Program Success

#### Special Interest Articles:

- Summer Enrichment Program ReCap
- Summer High School Internships
- Alaska Native Heritage Month
- Native Advisory Committee
- "Undoing Racism" Workshop ReCap

#### Contents:

Summer Enrichment Program Success	1
Native Advisory Committee Mtgs.	2
Summer Internships	2
Job Opportunities with Title VII IEP	3
Undoing Racism Workshop Held	3
November is Alaska Native Heritage Month	3
Upcoming Events	4

The Summer Enrichment Program served approximately 137 Native students in 1<sup>st</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades, from July 9 to August 3, 2007.

The program offered Native languages, math, language arts, physical education, cultural enrichment and soapstone carving. This program proved to be an effective way of reaching and providing instruction to students.

Students were given a choice of which Alaska Native language class they wanted to take, Yup'ik or Tlingit. The language instructors designed their lessons in reading, writing and math. Many of the students left the program speaking many words and singing a few songs in one of the two Alaska Native languages. Students also participated in cultural enrichment classes that included beading, subsistence style cooking, Eskimo dance fans and Aleut hunting hats. Students learned how the traditional projects were made and the significant use by each Alaska Native group.

The primary focus of the Physical Education class was to teach the Native Youth Olympic games in addition to other activities that promoted exercise as a healthy lifestyle.

Every student participated in soapstone carving under the direction of a master carver. The focus was on Alaskan animals. Each student chose an animal to carve

and take home. Students learned some of the elements of art, such as line and perspective. They also heard traditional stories about the animals they were carving.

Students were also engaged in direct instruction in math and language arts. Language arts activities included research on the animal they chose to carve. Math focused on a variety of activities from skill development in basic addition, subtraction and multiplication to measurement.

The results of the parent survey rated all components of the summer program as above average, and of the parents surveyed all indicated that they would enroll their children again. Summer school tutors said the summer enrichment program was fun and they learned about providing a culturally responsive and supportive learning environment for the children.

The ASD Title VII Indian Education was awarded a donation from The CIRI Charitable Gift Fund. In addition, Kids' Café and Ringing Rock Foundation provided food for the students. The program was a positive, culturally relevant learning opportunity for students, parents and staff, and was successful with providing students skills and reinforcement needed for the new school year.

*"The monthly Native Advisory Committee meeting is an opportunity for everyone to hear and/or provide input on what is currently taking place within the Title VII Indian Education Program and the Anchorage School District."*

*- Doreen Brown, Supervisor, Title VII Indian Education Program*

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*"It was nice to have the kids see me as a role model. They appreciated our help because we are more their age and they were more comfortable. The internship was a lot of fun."*

*- Emily  
Summer Intern and after program school volunteer*

## Native Advisory Committee Sets Schedule

The stated purpose of the Native Advisory Committee is to review and make recommendations to the Title VII Indian Education Program and to the Anchorage School District School Board relating to the education of Alaska Native/Native American students K-12 district-wide. The Native Advisory Committee (NAC) meets once a month on Thursdays from 6:00-7:30 p.m. For more information please call the Title VII Indian Education Office at 907-742-4445.

**October 18, 2007** South HS, Library  
13400 Elmora Road

**November 15, 2007** Gladys Wood ES,  
Library, 7001 Cranberry St.

**December 20, 2007** Chinook ES, Library  
3101 W 88th Ave.

**January 17, 2008** Willow Crest ES,  
Library, 1004 W Tudor Rd.

**February 21, 2008** Romig MS, Room  
101, 2500 Minnesota Dr.

**March 20, 2008** Hanshew MS, Room  
107, 10121 Lake Otis Pkwy.

**April 17, 2008** Aquarian Charter, TBA,  
1705 W 32nd Avenue

**May 15, 2008** Muldoon ES, TBA,  
525 Cherry St

**June 19, 2008** Lake Otis ES, TBA,  
3331 Lake Otis Pkwy

The Title VII Indian Education Program staff welcome input from concerned parents/guardians and students. Let your voice be heard and assist the Title VII IEP staff to provide the best services for Native students in the Anchorage School District.

## Summer Internship Program with Title VII Indian Education

Seven Alaska Native high school students participated as interns during the Title VII IEP Summer Enrichment Program this year. They were a great addition to the team. The interns were fantastic role models for the students and could relate to the students on a different level, since they themselves are currently in school. The student interns worked with a certificated teacher and two paraprofessionals to enhance the Alaska Native/American Indian, 1st-8th grade students' academic skills, engage in lifetime fitness activities, learn a Native language, and assist with cultural enrichment activities. "It was really fun learning things about my culture that even I didn't know," said

Emily Cunningham, intern and senior at Bartlett High School. One of the main goals with providing opportunities for our youth to work at the Summer Enrichment Camp is to "grow our own" because we need more Native educators. In addition, the student interns learn preemployment skills and they have the occasion to learn and assist with cultural and traditional activities, to explore their interest in teaching as a career and to earn 1/2 elective credit under the Anchorage School District's "Credit By Choice" community service and field study curriculum.

## "Undoing Racism" Workshop Held in July

As the summer heated up in July, ASD community members were called upon to be an agent of change to assist in breaking down the barriers of racism within the district and community. Sponsored by The People's Institute for Survival and Beyond, attendees worked toward understanding "organizational" gate-keeping [that functions] as a mechanism for perpetuating racism.

Over 80 participants, many from within the ASD administration and school board, worked through the two-day seminars that challenged them to "analyze the structures of power and privilege and how they can be effective organizers for social justice."

As an organizing workshop, the



group worked on individual understanding of what racism is and one's own connection to institutional racism and its impact on his or her own work. From there, the group worked toward an understanding of how all of us are adversely impacted by racism every day, everywhere. Participants were expected to come to an understanding of the role of community organizing and building effective multiracial coalitions as a means for Undoing Racism.

## Job Opportunities At Title VII Indian Education

Needed:

Title VII  
Indian Education  
Youth Development  
Tutor  
At  
Romig Middle School  
and  
North Star Elem.  
(sub-fill)

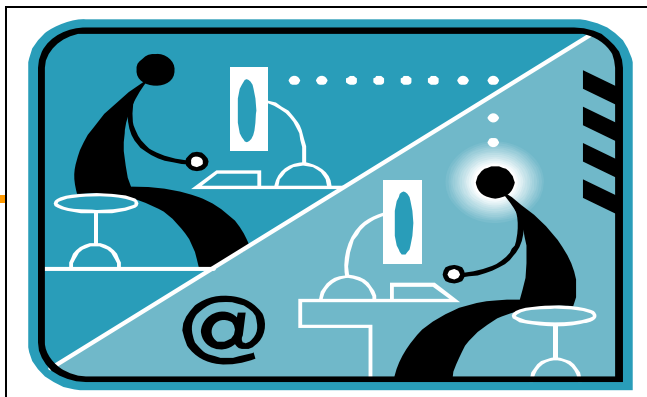
Please contact the  
Human Resource  
Department  
[http://www.asdk12.org/  
depts/hr/jobsearch.asp](http://www.asdk12.org/depts/hr/jobsearch.asp)

Or, call  
742-4445  
for more information.

## Title VII Indian Education Website Updates

Please take the time to look over our website. One great feature is on the bottom left hand corner. This is a link for [high school students](#) to learn more about scholarships, job opportunities and other resources.

<http://www.asdk12.org/depts/IndEd/>



## *Alaska Native Heritage Month November 2007*

We will continue to have Native Artists and Speakers available in the schools in November.

We are excited to have added a third component to the Native Cultures in the Community program: Elders in the Schools.

Check out the Alaska Native Heritage Month Website at

[http://  
alaskanativeheritagemonth.  
org](http://alaskanativeheritagemonth.org)

Title VII Indian Education Program  
Anchorage School District  
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Anchorage, Alaska 99504

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Education  
Program  
Parent Bulletin

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(907) 742-4445

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[www.asdk12.org/  
depts/IndEd/  
index.asp](http://www.asdk12.org/depts/IndEd/index.asp)



## October-November 2007 Highlights

Oct. 18: Native Advisory Committee Meeting, 6:00-7:30pm, South High School Library, 13400 Elmore Rd.

Oct. 19: State released grade reporting day.

Oct. 19: End of First Quarter

Nov. 7-8: Parent Conference Days

Nov. 9: State released professional development day.

Nov. 15: NAC meeting 6:00 - 7:30p:m, Gladys Wood Elementary School, 7001 Cranberry St.

## Next Issue will come out in Nov./Dec. 2007

The next issue of the Title VII Indian Education Program Parent Bulletin will be sent during November. Look for news you can

use as parents and as students to assist Alaska Native student success in grades K-12 and for summer program information.

The Parent Bulletin is now available on the Title VII IEP web site - go to: <http://asdk12.org/depts/IndEd/newsletter/index.asp>

## About The Title VII Indian Education Program . . .

The Indian Education Program of the Anchorage School District has staff in 50 schools within the district. The program concentrates its efforts in three areas: academic assistance, counseling, and cultural enrichment. Unfortunately, there is not enough funding to place staff in every school. However, if you or your child is interested in participating in activities, please call our offices at 742-4445. The Indian Education Resource Room is located at 5530 E. Northern Lts. Blvd., Anchorage.