



Cedar Mountain Elementary | American Indian Education Newsletter

| PRE-K-5 | SEPTEMBER | 2024

What is American Indian Education?

The American Indian Education Aid program is administered by the Minnesota Department of Education and provides American Indian student support to the Cedar Mountain School District with guidance from the American Indian Parent Advisory Committee or AIPAC. The American Education Department and AIPAC's goal is to strengthen and promote positive experiences and educational outcomes for American Indian students attending Cedar Mountain Early Childhood, Pre-School, Elementary, Middle School and High School.



These efforts are accomplished by:

1. Building meaningful relationships
2. Engaging in conversations
3. Professional development partnerships
4. Proposing and supporting policies and procedures
5. Seeking guidance and resources



We value:

1. Language, culture, and the significant and complex history of Indigenous peoples
2. The input from Lower Sioux Indian Community- Cansayapi
3. Perspective of parents/caregivers and students
4. The gifts and unique cultural needs of American Indian students
5. Effective and innovative programming



Vision:

American Indian students will reach their full potential within the Cedar Mountain School District through meaningful, equitable, and targeted educational experiences that affirms and values their unique cultural identities. One way to bring forth this vision for the elementary students is through the weekly lunch groups! Students are offered Dakota language and cultural teachings as we gather in the new classroom!

Tiyospaye Lunch Group schedule:

Monday: 1st grade 11:05 am

4th grade 11:40 am

Wednesday: 2nd grade 11:10 am

5th grade 11:45 am

Friday: Kindergarten 11:00 am

3rd grade 11:35 am

If families would like to join us for lunch, please contact the office (507) 557-2251.



There are currently 39 PS-5th grade students served by the American Indian Education Aid Program. Students are enjoying lunch group, classroom support, individual student support and the Dakota Word of the Day! Students and staff are looking forward to an amazing year! A great way to support our students is to understand the connection between sleep and student success. Thank you for your continued support throughout the school year!

2024-2025 AIPAC OFFICERS:

Kortni Bidinger, Chair

Joey O'Brien, Vice-Chair

Ariella Leith, Secretary

Vanessa Goodthunder, Treasurer

Miss Lisa, American Indian Language and Culture Educator

American Indian Education Department

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