



Indian Education

By Melody Staebner, Indian Education Coordinator

Native American Heritage Month

November is federally recognized as National Native American Heritage Month. This is a time to appreciate and celebrate the rich culture, traditions and history of Native American people, and to acknowledge the vast contributions we have made to the world.

Facts

- There are 574 federally recognized tribes in the United States. Each tribe has their own language, culture, songs and stories.
- Approximately 71% of Native Americans live in metropolitan areas.
- Much of our history has been forgotten or overlooked, so November serves as a time to provide education on America's Indigenous People.

Local facts

- There are more than 30 tribes represented in Fargo Public Schools from all over the United States and Canada.
- We have 582 students in FPS that identify as Native American.

Things to keep in mind

- We say regalia not costumes. Regalia is sacred.
- Be mindful of using metaphors/similes such as: sitting Indian Style, saying Indian giver, saying lets powwow.
- Don't assume your Native American students know about their culture.
- Indigenous people are trying to restore culture and language, as it was once stripped from our ancestors.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to any of us for questions or wonderings.

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