



Sàma Lìpin

Summer News 2026

Southern Oregon Indian Education

101 N Grape St. Medford OR 97501

<https://www.soesd.k12.or.us/migrant-ed-ell/>

Hey everyone,

I just want to apologize for my many shortcomings this school year. In reflection, I know in many ways I failed to bring and bridge and in other ways I excelled. Please know I am on an auntie's healing journey and will continue to grow, learn, and show up every single day. I apologize with my whole heart for the days I missed and the events I canceled this school year. Next school year I promise more consistency. It is an immense honor to be trusted in community with your children, whom I believe to be sacred and closest to Creator. They like our elders are our teachers. Thank you for your grace, understanding, and compassion. I am honored to grow and learn beside you all.

Thanks/Wopila Tanka, Inyan Wakan (Sacred Boulder) Jasi Swick

How to register for the program

Parents/guardians needs to fill out the [Title VI Student Eligibility Form \(Form 506\)](#) (PDF file) in order to register their American Indian/Alaska Native student. Please use a separate form for each student. Please return the completed form to: SOESD Indian Education, 101 N Grape St. Medford OR 97501

EVENT SCHEDULE BACK TO SCHOOL:

Saturday August 19th
Phoenix Block Party
come receive back to
school supplies

Friday August 21st Jasi
Comes back officially
from summer break
with an all day Inservice
training

Saturday August 29th
11AM-3PM ALLCARE
Native American Back
to School Health Fair

Thursday September
17th First Culture Night
at Little Creek Ranch in
Ashland at 5:30 PM

Thursday September
24th at 6PM Culture
Night at ALLCARE





Indian Education

CPC: CONSORTIUM PARENT COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Our CPC is the SOESD Indian Education School parent board. They oversee our program providing guidance and oversight while approving our funding. Meetings are open to public. **Keep your eyes out for openings next year!**

2025-2026 CPC LEADERSHIP COUNCIL: Thank you so much to these amazing rockstars for holding it down and keeping me together, I genuinely love you all!

Chairperson: **Echo Miller** (Klamath Tribe)

Chairperson: **Allison Germano** (Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua Tribe)

Secretary/Treasurer: **Jacklyn Holzhauser** (Yurok Tribe)

Member: **Randall McAllister** (Karuk Tribe)

Member: **Mariah Gonzalez** (Cherokee Nation)

Member: **Stephanie Ledford** (Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua Tribe)

Member: **Jamaya Obie Brown** (Yurok Tribe)

We will be recruiting new student leaders to serve on our council for the 2026-2027 school year! Please stay up to date with Constant Contact for that announcement.



“It was an honor to serve on the CPC and begin to learn how the parent committee serves our students. I observed advocacy, problem solving, and great program planning!” Mariah Gonzalez (Cherokee)

“Serving on the CPC board was an honor. Not only did I feel directly involved in decisions affecting my children, I also built community and connection, something that is so vital and often lacking in today’s world.” -Stephanie Ledford (Cow Creek)

Student Leaders: We are looking into a youth council! Join our parent school board. Experience can be used for scholarship application and gain skills serving your community. We are a program guided by elders, Tribes of Oregon, and STUDENT voice!



NASU: NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENT UNIONS

Grants Pass High School

- Advisor: Perry & Watson
- fperry@grantspass.k12.or.us
- Meets 1st and 3rd Friday at 3:20PM after school in room 206 Perry's classroom

Illinois Valley High School

- Advisor: Szijjarto
- jaime.szijjarto@threerivers.k12.or.us

Fruitdale Elementary School

- Advisor: Constance Palaia
- constance.palaiamarr@threerivers.k12.or.us

North Medford High School

- Advisor: Rebekah Wolf
- rebekah.wolf@medford.k12.or.us

Eagle Point High School

- Advisor: Sunshine Damico-Ivy
- DamicoIvyS@eaglepnt.k12.or.us

Ashland Middle School

- Advisor: Brittany Hardy
- Meets on Wednesdays
- Brittany.Hardy@ashland.k12.or.us

South Medford School

- Advisor: Danae LaQua
- Danae.laqua@medford.k12.or.us

Crater High School

- Advisor: Marcella Six
- marcella.six@district6.org

Bellview Elementary

- Advisor: Natalie Jackson

Walker Elementary

- Advisor: Felicia Florendo

Hellman Elementary

- Advisor: Tia McLean

tuuwuù'k^h (thank you)

Mental Health Resources for Native And Indigenous Communities.

- **Indigenous Story Studio:** creates illustrations, posters, videos, and comic books on health and social issues for youth (Canada-based)
 - [Strength of the Sash](#) and [Tomorrow's Hope](#): suicide prevention
 - [Making it Right](#): community justice, policing
 - [Just a Story](#): mental health stigma
- **One Sky Center:** The American Indian/Alaska Native National Resource Center for Health, Education, and Research; mission is to improve prevention and treatment of mental health and substance use problems and services among Native people
 - [A Guide to Suicide Prevention](#)
 - [Presentations and Publications](#): number of downloadable resources by topic (addiction treatment, adolescents, crisis care & disaster management, disparity of health services, mental health management, and more)
- **WeRNative:** a comprehensive health resource for Native youth by Native youth, promoting holistic health and positive growth in local communities and nation at large, text CARING to 65664, text NATIVE to 741741
 - My Culture – [Wellness and Healing](#), [Identity](#)
 - My Life – My Mind – [Mental Health Difficulties](#), [Improve Your Mood](#), [Getting Help](#), and more (including specific MH issues)
 - My Relationships – [Unhealthy Relationships](#), [Communicating](#), [LGBT – Two Spirit](#)
 - [Ask Auntie](#): similar to advice column – type in your question and it will pull up similar ones; if none answer what you're asking, Auntie Amanda will write up an answer and notify you when it is posted
- **StrongHearts Native Helpline:** The StrongHearts Native Helpline (1-844-762-8483) is a confidential and anonymous culturally-appropriate domestic violence and dating violence helpline for Native Americans, available every day from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. CT.
- Crisis line for Indigenous youth call 1-877-209-1266 (US and Canada)



FIRST DESCENT

KAYAKING THE KLAMATH

WATCH THE FILM | MEET THE PEOPLE
CONNECT WITH HISTORY IN PERSON



Join OPB producer Jessie Sears (Karuk) for a special screening and celebration of our film "First Descent: Kayaking the Klamath."

The film follows a group of 28 Indigenous kayakers who paddled the entire 300-mile Klamath River to become the first to descend the free-flowing river after the removal of four dams.

Conversation to follow.

July 12

Varsity Theatre
166 E. Main St., Ashland

Screenings at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.



Tickets are free but required.
Register at opb.org/ashland

This event is part of a series of community screening events happening across Oregon in 2026. Find upcoming screening dates and locations at opb.org/events.



**Special Thanks
to SOU YOUTH
PROGRAMS and
Chava Florendo
with our
Konaway Nika
Tillicum
Relatives for
extending their
invitation to
include our
SOESD Indian
Education
community. GET
FREE TICKETS:
See you there!**

Jasi and her family will be attending the 3pm showing!

HEALTHY START Block Party 2026



You're invited!

Make sure you and your kids start the school year strong at the Healthy Start Block Party, a community back-to-school event at Phoenix High School. It's a party for all Jackson County families, with health checkups, free food, community resources, giveaways and much more.*

Where

Phoenix High School
745 N Rose St.
Phoenix, OR 97535

When

Saturday, August 15
10 am - 2 pm

Join us!

*First come, first served

**Bring your insurance information

What's available

- ▶ Well-child checks**
- ▶ Sports physicals**
- ▶ Dental screenings
- ▶ Kids' haircuts
- ▶ Free food
- ▶ Games and giveaways
- ▶ Face painting
- ▶ School supplies and more

Brought to you by



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jacksoncareconnect.org

ICC 20160701 6N-0629



Indian Education

Ceremony & Powwow Protocols for Summertime Elder Teachings: We follow our elders in all things.

They set the pace, and we follow, Seats in front are reserved for elders, elders eat first, No touching without permission, Approach with respect for their energy and ask permission for their time, Approach with a gift (coming in a good way)

If an elder has passed on we do not call them back to our physical world by speaking their name. You respect them by making relations with their relations- and all relations. To honor someone that has passed you can do so by living well and checking in on their relatives. Reverence is given to our elders. SOESD Indian Education students provide elder care wherever we go- it is who we are!

Protocols: Be Respectful and Have a Wonderful Time!

NO TOUCHING: Don't touch an Indigenous person while they are wearing their regalia. Honestly, it is weird to come up and touch a stranger at any time, but our regalia is for ceremony, prayer, and our own family, clan, and self-expression. Regalia has specific purposes for healing the person wearing it and through the ceremony or dance heal others. The regalia may have been prayed over or has already been smudged with prayers. Some cultures it is appropriate to offer a hand first, if both agree on the energy felt you then can go in for a hug.

Please don't ever touch or ask to braid our hair either. Each culture has their own teachings

-NO DRUGS or ALCOHOL ARE ALLOWED WITHIN CEREMONY SPACES-

Some cultures of Indigenous people have teachings that require 30 days of clean eating through their body prior to wearing their regalia. Other cultures require a full year. Some require 4 days of fasting. Alcohol and Consumer made tobacco are not traditional for our people and it is a great offense to bring drugs or alcohol around. Ask the person for photos prior to taking them. Some people are comfortable while others are not. Be respectful. If you are unsure, ask an Auntie! We are here to learn, heal, and celebrate! Catch you at Intertribals-where we all dance!

Unless it is a guide/service animal it should stay home. They guard a little too well and we want our ancestors present to celebrate with us.



Community Partners: tuuwu`k^h (Thank You)

AllCare - Provided Community Room and Tribal Liaison for culture nights for the entire school year. Advertised our program to members. Informed us of Grant opportunities.

Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians - Provides Language Resources for Takelma \$10,000 Cow Creek Foundation Grant to support Culture Nights

Grants Pass Remembrance Project - had our program perform, Keynote speaking engagements, and table at their events.

Jackson Care Connect - Care Oregon - Sponsored Culture Nights with a total donation of \$5000.00 to our program.

Konaway Nika Tillicum - All My Relations- Hosted Holiday Event and supports local NASU's Native American Student Unions

Post Growth Institute - Supports our program with facilitator trainings for parents and Offer and Need market events

Southern Oregon Indian Center provides Elder in Residence at our culture nights, blanketed graduates, and invited us to share our program at their events.

Southern Oregon University - College Campus Tours, Tabling at events, support NASU's through SOU NASU and invites our families to their events. Student presentations for SOESD Indian Education students.

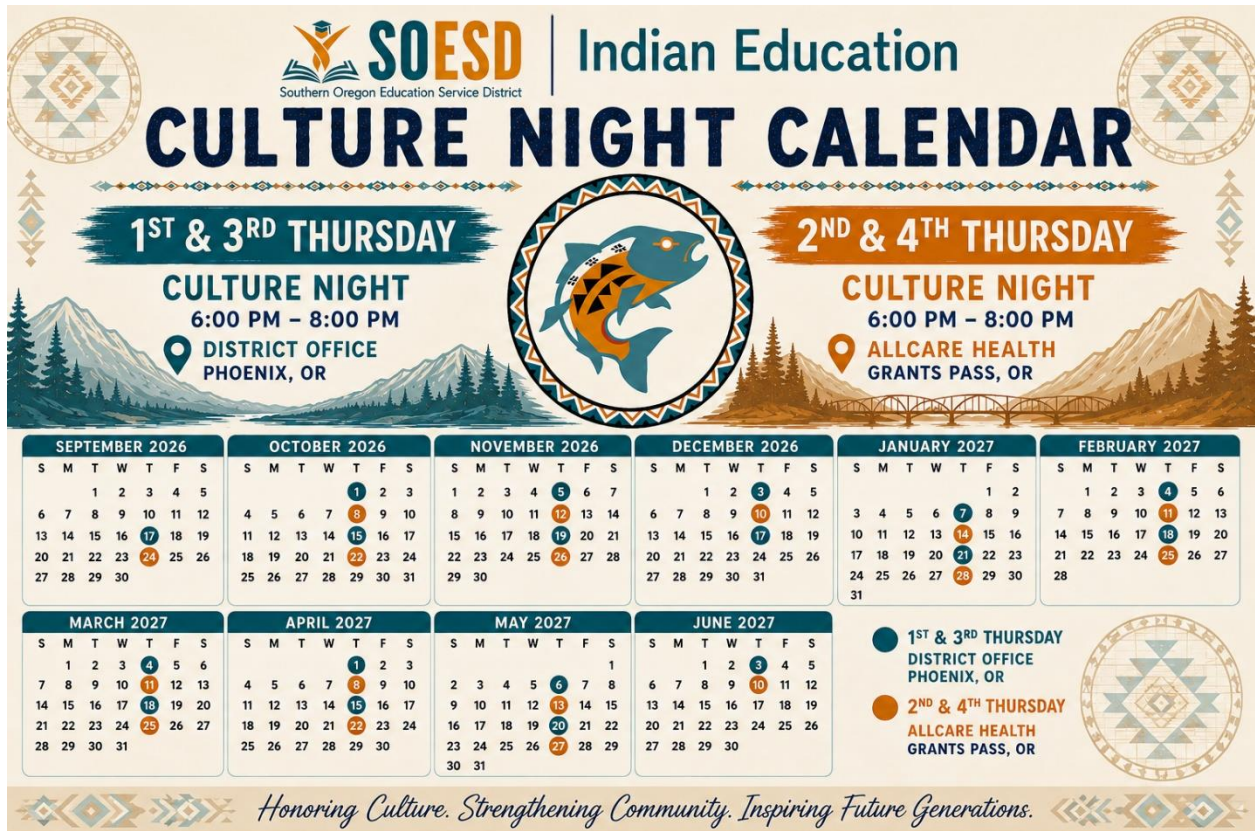
Vesper Meadow - Attended Culture Nights to provide activities for preschool age children.

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday August 29th 11AM-3PM

ALLCARE – 1701 NE 7th ST Grants Pass OR

Back to School Native American Health Fair



The graphic features the SOESD logo (Southern Oregon Education Service District) and the text "Indian Education CULTURE NIGHT CALENDAR". It highlights two event series: "1ST & 3RD THURSDAY CULTURE NIGHT" at the District Office in Phoenix, OR, and "2ND & 4TH THURSDAY CULTURE NIGHT" at AllCare Health in Grants Pass, OR. Both events are from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. A central circular logo depicts a fish. Below the text are two rows of monthly calendars for 2026 and 2027, with specific dates circled in blue and orange to indicate the event dates. A legend on the right explains the color coding: blue for the 1st & 3rd Thursday at the District Office, and orange for the 2nd & 4th Thursday at AllCare Health. The graphic is decorated with Native American geometric patterns and a mountain landscape.

Honoring Culture. Strengthening Community. Inspiring Future Generations.

We will be returning to the office in August! We already have some fun things lined up for next year! We will be handing out school supplies in Phoenix on August 15th and have our first ever **Native American Back to School Health Fair** on August 29th in Grants Pass in partnership with NARA and AllCare! Free suicide prevention lock boxes and locks, free first aid kits for your family, when to call your child into school sick, school supplies, Tobacco is Sacred presentations and merch and Diabetes and Cancer prevention information plus fun activity stations and a fantastic lunch!

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF

Restoration and Resilience



Klamath Tribes Restoration Celebration August 21, 22, 23 2026

Pow-Wow

goon oLgi gowa
35601 Choike Cherry Way, Chiloquin, OR
Friday, August 21: Grand Entry at 7:00 pm
Saturday, August 22: Grand Entry at 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm
Sunday, August 23: Grand Entry at noon
Hosts: Drum: The Cree
Contact Person: Henry Rowden / 541-783-2216, ext. 0
Vendor Contact: Denise Ruhl / 541-234-8168
Email: nativewentop@vulfox.com

Parade

Second Street
Chiloquin, OR
Saturday, August 22
Lineup at 9:00 am at Chiloquin High School
Parade begins at 10:00 am
Contact Person: Randee Jo Heppner / 541-783-2216, ext. 313
Email: KTD@klamathtribes.com

Fun/Run Walk

Chiloquin Elementary School Gym and Playground
548 S 2nd Ave, Chiloquin, OR
Friday, August 21:
Registration at 9:00 am
Picture Lineup at 11:15 am
Restoration Run/Walk at 11:30 am
Lunch at 12:00 pm
Contact Person: Ashley Gipek / 541-853-3521
(work): 541-870-0750 (cell) Email: ashlygipek@klamathtribesalltribe.org

Health Row

Chiloquin Elementary School Gym and Playground
548 S 2nd Ave, Chiloquin, OR
Friday, August 21:
Setup at 7:30 am
Begins at 9:00 am
Contact Person: Tasha Clark / 541-365-6413
Email: tasha.clark@klamathtribesalltribe.org

Stick Game Tournament

goon oLgi gowa
35601 Choike Cherry Way, Chiloquin, OR
Friday, August 21 at 6:00 pm
Contact Person: Joe Pike / 541-783-2216, ext. 119
Email: joe.pike@klamathtribes.com

Royalty Court/ Pageant

Contact Person: Candie Overmire / 541-238-6444

Co-Ed Softball/ Home Run Derby

828 W. Chockosot Street
Saturday, August 22 at 8:00 am
Sunday, August 23 at 9:00 am
Contact Person: Kamara Rix / 541-238-4492

*ta kai panna musapa
naat q'ay toq Gwapk
we won't stop
Treaty of 1864
since time immemorial*



Drug, Alcohol & Smoke Free.
Public Welcome

CULTURE NIGHTS DATA SUMMARY:

Category	Total
Josephine County Culture Nights	18
Jackson County Culture Nights	15
Total Culture Night Events	33
Total Attendance	250



Cultural Activities Included

- 🐻 Elk Hide Hand Drums
- 🐢 Turtle Shell Rattles
- 🌿 Traditional Shawl Making
- 👗 Regalia Construction
- 🌱 Three Sisters Gardening
- 🗣️ Takelma Language Exposure
- 🗣️ Cultural Storytelling
- 🎨 Native Arts & Painting
- 🤝 Community Wellness Presentations

These activities supported cultural identity development, intergenerational learning, and community connection. Culture Night locations included SOESD in Medford, SOESD in Phoenix, Illinois Valley High School in Cave Junction, and AllCare in Grants Pass.



“I had a wonderful time and my kids absolutely loved going.”

“Jasi, you are excellent in guiding the young Natives to help find their full potential in their communities and tribes. Keep up the fantastic work.” - Anonymous Feedback Surveys

CHECK OUT OUR FULL [END OF THE YEAR DATA REPORT](#)

2nd Annual CTCLUSI Local Canoe Journey 2026



Scan QR Code for
application

July 16 - 19, 2026

This is a family-friendly event.
Families are encouraged to participate together.
NO CHILDCARE WILL BE PROVIDED.
All youth under the age of 18 **MUST** be
accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.



CTCLUSI families are welcome to camp at Tribal Hall
(spaces are limited so RSVP is required)

Camping not required to attend day activities.
Limited number of rooms available for Elders or
Tribal members that need specific accommodations.

Schedule

- ▶ July 16th - Arrival Day
- ▶ July 17th - Canoe Pull (Intermediate/ advanced pull)
- ▶ July 18th - Canoe Pull (Intermediate/ advanced pull)
- ▶ July 19th - Final Landing Canoe Pull (family friendly pull) and BBQ

Transportation
provided daily from
Tribal Hall to pull
start locations and
landings ONLY.

A variety of cultural
activities at the
community center



Questions? email localcanoejourney@ctclusi.org

We made the switch from parent square to constant contact and are asking families to please complete this form to get added if you have experienced trouble downloading and signing up.

<https://forms.gle/tBrg6NLovB7vpBGRA> Thanks!



COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

WE ARE SWITCHING FROM PARENT SQUARE TO CONSTANT CONTACT TO SEND YOU INFORMATION RELEVANT TO YOUR FAMILY AND STUDENT. WE NEED YOU TO COMPLETE THE FORM WITH YOUR NAME, NUMBER, EMAIL ADDRESS, AND CHECK THE BOX TO CONSENT TO MESSAGING. THANK YOU FOR HELPING US STAY IN TOUCH!



WEB LINK TO RECEIVE COMMUNICATIONS

[HTTPS://LP.CONSTANTCONTACTPAGES.COM/SL/WV2XTPM](https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/sl/wv2xtpm)

CLICK HERE TO CONFIRM SIGN UP FOR COMMUNICATIONS



QUESTIONS? CONTACT:
ANDREA TOWNSEND AT
(541) 776-8590 EXT.
3130



SOCIALS:

[Facebook Jackson Josephine SOESD Indianed](#)

[YOUTUBE: SOESD STAFF TRAINING VIDEOS](#)

JASI (JC) SWICK

(She, Her, Hers)

Cheyenne River & Standing Rock Lakota Oyate'

SOESD Indian Education Facilitator

Jasilyn_swick@soesd.k12.or.us

<https://www.soesd.k12.or.us/migrant-ed-ell/>

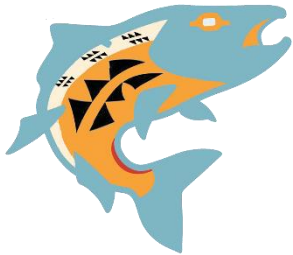
Cell: 541-890-8861 -Call or Text

Office: 541-776-8590 ext. 3152

Smoke Signals: Long Puff-short puff- short puff



**SOESD INDIAN EDUCATION PROGRAM,
101 N. Grape St., Medford, OR 97504**



PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE