

## **Arizona High School Renewal and Improvement Initiative (AZHSRI)**

The goal of AZHSRI is to develop a statewide vision and action plan for implementing high school renewal and improvement in order to raise academic achievement, increase the number of high school graduates and increase post-secondary options, such as college enrollment/completion and workplace entry.

There is a Statewide Team representative of diverse groups of stakeholders who are in the process of establishing specific action plans to address the overriding goal of increasing student achievement. The Team held focus groups around the state to clarify the unique context for high school renewal in Arizona. These focus groups included Native American representatives. Additional reservation focus groups are being planned specifically to address issues surrounding the education of Native American students.

As a part of AZHSRI, ADE activities have included:

(Sessions specific to the Native American students were included in each of these.)

- National Dropout Prevention Conference, Phoenix
- Renewal Summit on Personalizing Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
- Renewal Summit on Personalizing the School Climate
- Renewal Summit on Collaborative Leadership and Professional Learning Communities to be held April 30, May 1-2, Tucson
- Native American Dropout Prevention Conference (Ft. Defiance) presentation
- High School Renewal presentation to be offered at the March, 2006 Native American Parent Conference in Prescott

## **AzTEP Grant**

Following schools received AZTEP grants:

Chinle USD	560,000.00
Indian Oasis USd	160,000.00
Salt River Pima-Maricopa CS	80,000.00
Tuba City USD	480,000.00
Window Rock USD	560,000.00

## **Career and Technical Education - Services provided to LEAs on reservations by CTE:**

Public LEAs offering vocational programs:	BIA Schools offering vocational programs:
Chinle Unified School District	Greyhills Academy
Ft Thomas USD	Hopi Jr/Sr High School
Ganado Unified School District	

Indian Oasis Baboquivari USD  
Kayenta Unified School District  
Peach Spring USD  
Pinon Unified School District  
Red Mesa Unified School  
San Carlos USD  
Sanders Unified School District  
Tuba City Unified School District  
Whiteriver USD  
Window Rock Unified School Districts

Many Farms District  
Rough Rock Community School

The above schools participate in the federal Carl D Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Basic Grant program. Services include technical assistance in development of new CTE programs, program evaluation, and professional development workshops for teachers and administrators, grant development, training in use of funds and development of budget, goals and objectives, training in data collection and reporting.

Except for BIA schools the public schools receive state priority funds based on their enrollment and placement survey information. Both funding sources are supplemental and are used to support approved vocational programs.

In addition, ADE/CTE in collaboration with Association for Career and Technical Education of Arizona sponsor an annual summer CTE conference (one of the largest in the country) that makes available professional development workshops/seminars for CTE teachers and administrators. At the summer conference, CTE office provides a one-day intensive training for new directors and their support staff in the areas of Basic Grant development, funding, data collection and reporting, program evaluation. Throughout the conference, follow up training on the above subjects are repeated for smaller groups.

CTE Basic Grant staff visit the assigned districts at least twice a school year. Additional visits are scheduled as needed and upon request from the districts.

**Dropout Prevention grants-** Dropout prevention grants were awarded to these LEAs serving Native American students:

Indian Oasis Unified School District  
Shonto Prep School  
Pinon Unified School District  
Ganado Unified School District

**English Acquisition Services-** Here is a list of LEAs that have been visited by representatives of the English Acquisition Services (EAS) unit either for state monitoring

purposes or for technical assistance beginning in the 2001-2002 school year up until the present:

Cedar USD 10/30/03 and 3/31/05

Chinle USD 10/28/03 and 11/2/05

Ganado USD 3/30/04

Indian Oasis-Baboquivari USD 12/17/02 and 3/1/06 (scheduled for Technical Assistance)

Kayenta USD 10/16/01 and 10/20/04

Peach Springs USD 4/17/01

Pinon USD 4/1/04

Red Mesa USD 11/18/02, 10/19/04 and 11/1/05

Sacaton ESD 3/6/01

San Carlos USD 9/16/02

Tuba City USD 5/22/01 and 10/21/04

Whiteriver USD 5/16/03 and 11/9/05

Window Rock USD 9/17/03

In addition to the above visits, this unit provided an informational presentation to the following district representatives on September 2, 2004 at Chinle Intermediate School: Cedar USD, Chinle USD, Ganado USD, Kayenta USD, Pinon USD, Red Mesa USD, Sanders USD, Window Rock USD

In the development of the English Language Proficiency Standards regional focus group meetings were held twice in Chinle, Flagstaff, Mesa, and Tucson (in addition to other locations where no reservation LEAs were present) in October and December of 2003. The focus groups included the following LEAs: Ganado, Kayenta, Window Rock, Pinon, Red Mesa, Chinle, Tuba City, Whiteriver, San Carlos, and Indian Oasis-Baboquivari.

Irene Moreno and Sheryl Green participated in a Round Table discussion in Window Rock, AZ –Spring 2004 (we do not have an exact date)

Training sessions for the new Stanford English Language Proficiency test were held in Summer of 2004 in San Carlos USD and St. Johns USD and again in Summer 2005 in San Carlos USD.

Technical Assistance was provided in this office to Pinon USD on 2/7/06.

EAS periodically gathers Task Force members together to update/create forms and when we are required to implement new programming. Our task force always includes members from the reservations.

**Gifted Education-** Site visits to Reservation districts and districts with high American Indian enrollments:

Indian Oasis

Tuba City

Window Rock, 2 visits  
Page  
Winslow, 2 visits

Frequent phone, email, communication (gifted grants, gifted programs)  
Indian Oasis  
Page  
Tuba City  
Kayenta  
Red Mesa  
Ganado  
Window Rock  
Sanders  
Pinon  
Chinle

Navajo Nation Gifted Coordinators Meetings:  
1 meeting in Tuba City, Spring, 2005. Approximately 8 districts represented  
1 meeting in Ganado, Fall, 2005. Five districts represented.

Presentations for the Arizona Indian Education Association:  
Parent/ Student conference, Fall 2003  
Parent/ Student conference, Fall 2004  
AIEA member meeting presentation, Spring, 2004  
AIEA member meeting presentation, Fall 2005

Sponsored Gifted Education for American Indian Students Conference, Fall, 2004

**Health and Nutrition Services** provides Child and Adult Care Food Program, Commodity program, National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs, Fresh Fruit and Vegetables Program, Summer Food Service Programs. With all these programs we provide training, TA and reviews at schools that choose to participate in any of the above mentioned programs.

**The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program** Provides fresh fruit and vegetables to children at 8 reservation schools on the Tohono O'odham Nation and the Gila River Indian Community.

**The STEPS program** is implemented in the Tohono O'odham Nation along with three counties which are also recipients.

**Highly Qualified-** Technical assistance is provided to the American Indian Community as they strive to meet the NCLB requirements of "highly qualified". In fact, a team from the "highly qualified" unit was in Chinle, Ganado and Window Rock two weeks ago providing technical assistance regarding certification questions and "highly qualified"

teacher requirements. Jan Pentek, Director of Certification and Patty Hardy provided a 2 hour workshop on current certification and highly qualified requirements. In the afternoon, they renewed teaching certificates and issued early childhood endorsements. Lisa Kelley reviewed Career Ladder plans and meet with teachers seeking National Board Certification.

Highly Qualified staff provided Kayenta technical support in completing their Alternative Secondary Path to certification application. The application is outstanding and will be presented to the State Board for approval on February 27.

Staff in the Highly Qualified office provide phone support to these districts on a daily basis.

Technical assistance for schools on the Indian reservation also include the following:

**Career Ladder**-Technical assistance to Ganado and Window Rock  
**Visits and assistance** for pay for performance plans and National Board Certification.

**Research and Evaluation**- Research & Evaluation has made frequent visits to reservation LEAs to provide technical assistance, including Indian Oasis-Baboquivari Unified District , Window Rock, and Kayenta. The section has held Accountability Workshops all across Arizona for the last three years that are open to all schools and districts. Several workshops are held either on a reservation or in nearby towns such as Holbrook. The Research and Evaluation section continuously provides technical support to reservation educators via phone, e-mail, or face-to-face meetings.

**Supt. Horne's Arts Education Initiative**

Chinle Unified (Tsaile Elementary)  
Ft. Thomas Elementary  
Ganado High School  
Whiteriver ( Alchesay High School)

**Teacher Certification**- Certification Unit conducted its first workshop in 2003 in Sanders, Arizona. In addition, the unit team that presented the workshop also conducted certification services later during the same day. Since then, the Certification Unit every year has conducted workshops and certification services in Chinle, Ganado, Kayenta and Window Rock.

We offer on-site visits to every district in the state of Arizona, also referred to as "renewal clinics". We also offer certification workshops. This is where we go to the districts and bring all of our updated forms and go over any changes in the certification process with Human Resource staff. We inform them of any legislative changes and explain to them in great detail how this can affect the teachers or human resource staff.

**The Wallace Foundation Leadership Project** works with two school districts in Navajo Nation; Chinle Unified and Red Mesa Unified.

The goal of the project is to institutionalize leadership development by building capacity and creating supportive conditions for school leaders that lead to solid results for students.

Chinle and Red Mesa are two of the seven demonstration districts throughout the state of Arizona that participate in this three-year project. Chinle is represented by teams of 4-7 leaders each from the District Office, Many Farms School, Chinle Junior High and Chinle High School. Red Mesa is represented by leadership teams from the District Office, Red Mesa Elementary and Junior High, and Red Mesa High School.

There are three major strategies that we utilize to accomplish our goal.

1. Award the schools (each district has three schools) a \$20,000 mini grant per year to promote leadership development
2. Each principal and superintendent are assigned a leadership coach that assists them in both professional and personal growth.
3. The project schools and districts are provided the opportunity to attend a Leadership Institute during the summer and a regional institute during the winter months that are sponsored by the Wallace Foundation.

**21<sup>st</sup> Century Grants** - The purpose of 21st Century Community-Learning Center Grant is to establish community-learning centers that provide students with standards-based academic enrichment classes and opportunities especially in math, reading and writing during out-of-school time. These academic activities are designed to complement the students' regular academic program.

Schools that have 21st Century grants:

Chinle USD

Red Mesa USD

Rock Point Community School

Sacaton elementary School

Sanders Unified School

Window Rock USD