

Lapwai School District  
Superintendent's  
Weekly Update

Friday, January 26, 2024

Celebrations & Pictures of Wildcat Scholars  
& the Dedicated Staff Who Serve Them



# Hoop Shoot ❄️ Lewiston ❄️ January 6<sup>th</sup>

Lapwai School District Champions!

8-9 Year Olds  
Rhoni Taylor  
Cason Leighton

10-11 Year Olds  
Rikki Davis  
Akesis Montelongo

12-13 Year Olds  
Ginna Wilson  
Ryker Samuels



Rhoni Taylor Placed 2nd  
Cason Leighton Placed 3rd  
Ryker Samuels Placed 2<sup>nd</sup>

Thank you to all the parents for their support  
and the students for their dedication!  
-Mrs. Melton

*Qe'ciyew'yew' Mrs. Melton  
for Sharing This Celebration!*

Nez Perce Cultural Principle:  
Evaluating Mastery

# Hoop Shoot ❄️ Lewiston ❄️ January 6<sup>th</sup>



Nez Perce Cultural Principle:  
Evaluating Mastery

# Educational Summit

## Educational Summit

Date: Thursday, January 25, 2024

Time: 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Location: Lewiston City Library Event Space

Qe'ciyew'yew'

A special thank you to the Lapwai Indian Education Department for their support in preparation for this celebration!

A heartfelt thank you to our honored guests for joining us to celebrate the growing resources in the Lapwai School District supporting student success!

## Honored Guests:

Nez Perce Tribe Executive Committee  
Nez Perce Tribe Circle of Elders  
Lapwai School District Board of Trustees  
Lapwai School District Indian Parent Committee  
Lapwai School District Wisdom Keepers  
Lapwai School District Family Engagement Teams



Advanced Opportunities & Dual Credit  
Seniors: Qubilah Mitchell & Keasha Henry



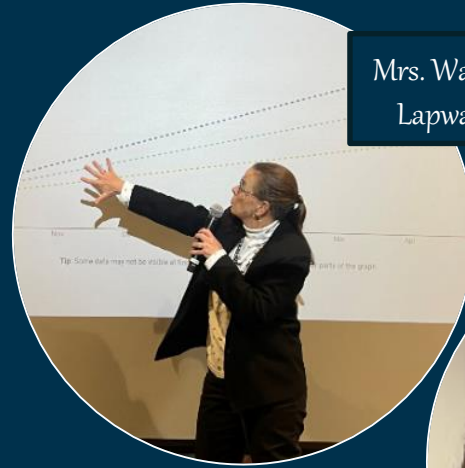


2023-2024 Lapwai School District  
Superintendents Student Cabinet

Pictured Left to Right: Charlize Kipp, Madden Bisbee,  
Dominick Kager, Elyden Jackson, Aralen Moses, Sa'qan Greene

A Wildcat thank you to the Student Cabinet for acting  
as hosts and greeting our honored guests!

# Educational Summit



Mrs. Wagner, Principal  
Lapwai Elementary



Dr. Penney, Principal  
Lapwai Middle-High



# Educational Summit



Annual Impact Aid  
Questionnaire Results

Qe'ciyew'yew' Charlize Kipp for  
Assisting With the Presentation!



Alicia Wheeler  
Nez Perce State  
Tribal Education  
Partnership



Iris Chimburas  
Lapwai Indian  
Education Department



# Qe'ciyew'yew' Alicia Wheeler!

Alicia Wheeler joined Ms. Calkins' 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Wildcat Scholars for reading and storytelling: Students crafted sentences with adjectives followed by a fry bread reward!

Qe'ciyew'yew'  
Sepहितemenew'éet Alicia!

Nez Perce Cultural Principle:  
Community Orientation



Qe'ciyew'yew' Ms. Calkins for Sharing Pictures!

# Adorable Half-Time Entertainment



Nez Perce Cultural Principle:  
Experiential Learning



Qe'ciyew'yew' Emma Shaffer for .  
Showcasing Our Talented Students!

Emma Shaffer's Kindergarten  
and 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Music Students  
Half-Time Dance Performance  
Thursday, January 25, 2024



# Qe'ciyew'yew' Lapwai School District Superintendent's Faculty Cabinet

Teeiah Arthur



Carleen Baldwin



Melissa Beckman



Matthew Morgan



Qe'ciyew'yew'

I would like to thank this dedicated group of professionals with big hearts for Lapwai students for the gift of their time and expertise, acting as my advisors with the Student Cabinet.

-David Aiken

Bradley Peterson



Raneisha Running



Bonnita Smith




Georgia Sobotta





# Annual Impact Aid Survey



A questionnaire is distributed annually in an effort to hear the voices of our parents, community members, and Nez Perce Tribal leaders in the planning and development of our educational programs. After reviewing the results of the 2023-2024 Impact Aid Questionnaire, three learning needs emerged as the highest priorities. Current efforts to address these priorities in the Lapwai School District are now posted on the Lapwai School District website and featured on the pages to follow:

Lapwai.org  
Impact Aid



# Priority #1

*Enhanced whole child educational Pre-K-12 programs that develop positive human relations, self-discipline, good citizenship, self-esteem and success*



The Lapwai School District is currently implementing Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (P.B.I.S). P.B.I.S. is a best-practice framework for improving academic and behavioral outcomes for all students. The purpose of this program is to increase academic time-on-task by reducing problem behaviors. The students are explicitly taught how to be respectful, responsible, and safe in all locations on the school grounds. Our goal with PBIS and bullying prevention is to create a safe environment to maximize learning for all students. The elementary is also implementing the P.A.T.H.S. curriculum (Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies), which encourages the development of strong social skills, problem solving, positive character traits, and bullying prevention, all which support academics. These research-based tools for teachers minimize learning interruptions and prevent bullying and other behaviors with strategic procedures and prevention techniques. Positive character traits and citizenship are also recognized in both schools with rewards, celebrations, and assemblies.

# Priority #1 Continued

Enhanced whole child educational Pre-K-12 programs that develop positive human relations, self-discipline, good citizenship, self-esteem and success



An alternative learning environment at Lapwai Middle-High School has continued called the Empowerment Room. An adjoining room to the library, these spaces are intended to support both students requiring credit recovery as well as advanced opportunities. Objectives include:

- Welcoming Environment
- Atmosphere of Respect and Safety
- Emphasis on Success
- Celebrating Positives
- High Expectations
- Adherence to the Student Code of Conduct



# Priority #1 Continued

Enhanced whole child educational Pre-K-12 programs that develop positive human relations, self-discipline, good citizenship, self-esteem and success



The 2023-2024 Superintendent's Student Cabinet have also identified respect as a planning priority. They are creating a public service announcement focused on respectful behavior for use as an instructional tool in the classroom and to share with the community.

- Micah Bisbee, Restorative Justice Coordinator, is teaching a high school Leadership class. The focus of the course includes communication skills, creativity, feedback, motivation, and positivity. The class also mentors middle school students, engaging with them during their lunch period.



# Priority #1 Continued

Enhanced whole child educational Pre-K-12 programs that develop positive human relations, self-discipline, good citizenship, self-esteem and success



There are growing resources within the district to ensure a safe and supportive learning environment which include:

Lori Ravet: Special Education Director and School Psychologist; Kristen Bateman: Elementary Counselor, and School Psychologist; Speech and Language, Occupational Therapy, and Physical Therapy Personnel; Josh Nellesen: Middle-High Academic Guidance Counselor; Shawna Leighton: Community Resource Specialist and Truancy Interventionist; Jennifer Becker: Elementary PBIS Coordinator; Buck Walker: Middle-High PBIS Coordinator; Iris Chimburas: Indian Education Coordinator; Jenny Williams: Cultural Specialist; Lori Lynn Parrish: Home School Liaison; Jennifer Williams: Guidance Service Specialist; Micah Bisbee, Restorative Justice Coordinator; Ongoing successful collaboration with Nimiipuu Behavioral Health.

# Priority #2

## Nez Perce Language Recovery



Nez Perce language is offered regularly in every elementary classroom and daily for grades 1st through 5th in the afterschool program. Nez Perce Language instruction is offered for 6-8 grades this year. Additional sections of introductory and advanced classes have been added for grades 7-12 with high school students earning four college credits. A new four credit Nez Perce Language course was also added this year through LCSC.

Qe'ciyew'yew'

A Wildcat thank you to our Nez Perce Language teachers for their engaging approach to instruction and love for Lapwai students!

# Priority #3

## *College and Career Readiness, Advanced Uses of Technology*



The elementary afterschool program includes a science, technology, engineering, and mathematics focus with engaging activities and family engagement events. The program continues to introduce students to drone technology.

The middle-high school has a very strong partnership with the Nez Perce Tribe. 100% of high school seniors have access and support with college applications, FAFSA, scholarship applications, access to dual college credit in high school, and college transition activities. There is continued collaboration with community based programs such as Students for Success, Nez Perce Tribe Education, Upward Bound, and Gear Up. Students have access to customized learning plans based on the need for advanced opportunity, dual college credit, and credit recovery. At-risk 8th-12th grade students are enrolled in custom courses in Edmentum and Idaho Digital Learning Academy to ensure that they are eligible for graduation.



# Priority #3 Continued

## *College and Career Readiness, Advanced Uses of Technology*



Seniors benefit from math and English-language arts tutoring and college advising. Students have access to instructional support in the classroom and after school hours including SAT preparation. All seniors are eligible for a 5 year renewable scholarship to attend Idaho institutions. All seniors participated in FAFSA, Idaho College Application Week, and toured at least two college campuses.

National Honors Society and FFA (Future Farmers of America) continue to provide career awareness, work experience, and professional-technical opportunities for our students.

FFA and Nez Perce Language students are also participating in academic competitions with great success.

University of Idaho Upward Bound has an office at the high school including a full time dedicated staff member. Their college preparation services include SAT assistance, dual enrollment opportunities, virtual campus visits, and financial aid assistance.

# Priority #3 Continued

*College and Career Readiness, Advanced Uses of Technology*



The middle-high includes a team of student support services working on a research-based approach to preparing students for graduation and the requirements and challenges after high school.

Dual college credit opportunities through LCSC for high school students currently include: Introduction to Business, Public Speaking, Nez Perce Language, College Writing, Native American History, Math, College and Career Readiness, and Idaho Digital Learning Academy online dual credit.

There is a strong partnership with IDLA and LCSC to create a pathway for all 6th -12th grade students interested in the health field. The track for our future medical students begins with health in middle school, health occupations, medical terminology and access to become a certified nursing assistant in their junior or senior year.



# Priority #3 Continued

*College and Career Readiness, Advanced Uses of Technology*



Environmental Science has introduced and implemented advanced technology within the classroom specifically related to drones, Adobe and Microsoft certifications, machining, and engineering. These programs are made possible by the collaboration with the University of Idaho, Nez Perce Tribe Natural Resources, and Career Technical Education with the state of Idaho. Lapwai students also participate in internships with the Tribe and access to advanced technology.

All middle school students are enrolled in speech and debate.

The Lapwai School District Indian Education Department continues Accessing implementation of a Choices in Education grant providing resources related to family and student supports, college and career readiness, Native American Studies and school guidance, and restorative justice.

# Priority #3 Continued

## College and Career Readiness, Advanced Uses of Technology



The Lapwai School District Indian Education Department continues implementation of a Native Youth Community Project grant. The three student pathways through NYCP include: 1) Educational Careers Pathway; 2) Medical Careers Pathway; and 3) Career and Technical Pathway.

Lapwai middle-high is involved in the Create Idaho and Imagine Academy programs. These projects bring updated technologies into school through a partnership with Adobe and Microsoft. Both of which provide access to the most updated versions of the software, a curriculum specifically made for these projects, and a national certification process.

Through a partnership with Northwest Indian College students in grades 9th -12th have access to a dual credit courses including Introduction to Cultural Sovereignty and Native Health and Wellness.

*Qe'ciyew'yew' to all those who provided feedback. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's school or the superintendent with questions or for additional information.*

# LAPWAI MIDDLE-HIGH!

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM &  
FRIDAY EXTENDED LEARNING



Derek Knoll, Rm 351  
X3351



Sam Maynes, Rm 320  
X3320



Jacob Whittaker, Rm 120  
X3104

Join Mr. Knoll and Mr. Maynes  
Mon-Thurs, 3:30-4:30  
for academic supports  
&  
Mr. Whittaker 1-3PM  
on Fridays for  
extended learning