Nawayee Center School: State of the School Gathering Monday October 17, 2022











Agenda

Nawayee Center School:

WHO WE ARE

- Mission and vision
- Strengths
- Challenges

OUR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

- Goals and strategies
- Sharing student progress

TITLE I

- Overview of Title I
- How we're using our Title I funds
- Title I and Family Engagement







Nawayee Center School: Who We Are



Mission

Providing transformative education, founded in Indigenous lifeways and a love of learning.

Vision

Inspiring a sense of place and direction within the circle of life, from which students discover strength, purpose and vision.

Exemplify excellence in Indigenous Education.

School Stats

- Tuition free Contract Alternative Program
- Grades: 7th through 12th
- Currently enroll 38 students, majority American Indian
- Funded by grants, MPS partnership, and many community supporters!
 - Community partners: Native American Community Clinic, Women's Environmental Institute, Phillips Indian Educators, Division of Indian Work, MIGIZI, and Hold Your Horses

Our Current Reality



Strengths

- Community and culture-based experiences and partnerships
- Hands-on, experiential, and culturally-relevant curriculum embedded into every classroom
- Small-class sizes offer more individualized learning experiences and support
- Deep commitment to indigenous pedagogy

Challenges

- Two key school leaders retired over the summer
- Living in the wake of a global pandemic, our students face many academic and social-emotional challenges
- Chronic truancy and low attendance rates
- Intergenerational trauma and mistrust of the U.S. Education system

Our School Improvement Plan

What's a School Improvement Plan?

Our school improvement plan:

- •Sets the **goals** that our school community is working to achieve
- •Identifies the **strategies or activities** that will help us reach those goals together

Every Minneapolis Public School is required to develop, implement, and monitor a school improvement plan.



Our School Improvement Plan

Goal: Academic Achievement

100% of the Center School students will be informed of and "in control" of their credits toward graduation plan by December 2022.

- Daily advisory time for students to develop their Continuous Learning Plan (CLP) with staff advisors.
 - Regular student check-ins
- Partnership and connections with MIGIZI to offer: after school tutoring, credit-earning workshops, and community building

Goal: Student Well-being

100% of our students will have access to spiritual, culturally-based mental health supports and trauma-informed coping strategies and resources.

- Clearly defined expectations of respect upon enrollment → students, parents/guardians, and administration sign Community Compact
- Partnership with the Native American Community Clinic (NACC)
 - Bi-weekly sessions with NACC staff
 - Access to NACC health screenings and culturally-based services.
- Medicine Wheel Project weekly sessions with Hold Your Horses (Equine Therapy)

Goal: Effective Staff

100% of our staff will participate in trauma-informed best practices and academic standards for teaching.

- All staff participation in NACC trainings, Equine Therapy, and other trauma-informed trainings
- Curriculum and academic trainings for staff will occur after school each Monday.

Goal: School & District Climate

100% of the students who attend Nawayee Center School will feel safe, welcome and cared for during their time as students.

- 100% of our students will have access to a staff advisor on a daily basis.
- Advisors will make a minimum of three "outside of class" connections with students per quarter.



We want to make sure our students are learning as much as possible, so we use state and district assessments to determine their strengths and areas for growth. The results of these assessments help us figure out how we can better support our students in the classroom.

Assessments help us answer questions such as:

- Are we teaching what we think we are teaching?
- Are students learning what we intend for them to be learning?
- Are all students improving and being appropriately challenged?

Some of the assessments our students will take this year are:

- FAST (reading and math)
- MCA's (math, reading, and science)
- Staff observational assessments/weekly "Kid Talk" meetings

How We'll Share Student Progress with You

Throughout the year, we'll share information with you about how your student is doing in the classroom.

We'll do it in the following ways:

• Family conferences -

- November 2, 2022
- February 21, 2023
- April 19, 2023
- Quarterly report cards sent home directly with students and via mail
- Google Classroom (Guardian Access)
 - Using your email, teachers invite you to their Google Classrooms to stay up-to-date on daily activities and students assignments
- Open-door policy





Title I

What is Title I?





Title I is a federal program that provides money to schools and districts to help them ensure all children have an equal opportunity to get a high-quality education and achieve proficiency on our state's academic standards and assessments.

Title I supports our School Improvement Plan, and the funding we receive helps us reach our goals.



Nawayee Center School is a schoolwide Title I program, which means all our students are able to benefit from the services we provide with our Title I funding.

For the 2022-2023 school year, we received **\$25,505** in Title I funding, which makes up **10%** of our school budget.

We are required to use Title I funding to improve the academic achievement of all students and engage YOU, our families, in that process!

How We're Using our Title I Funding



Curriculum and Instruction Support

- ALEKs (Math)
- Achieve3000 (Language Arts/Literacy)
- BookWidgets & Quizlet (ELA, Science, and Social Studies)

Family Engagement

- Open house and community-based events
- Family feasts and cultural gatherings
- State of the School gatherings

As a family member in a Title I School, you have the right to...



- Request information from the district about whether your student's teacher meets State licensing approval for the grade and subject being taught, is teaching with a waiver, and/or has certification for the field being taught
- Request information about the qualifications of any paraprofessional providing instruction
- Know how your child's **school is rated** on its state test scores
- Expect **regular communication** with your school in a language that you can understand
- Work with other families and staff to develop a compact between our school and our families
- Help plan how money for family involvement should be spent
- Work with teachers, other families, and the school principal to develop a **family engagement plan**
- Ask for a meeting with your school principal or your child's teacher at any time

Opportunities for Families to be Involved!



We want your input on our:

- School Improvement Plan goals and strategies
- Family Engagement Plan
- School-Family Compact

You can find all these documents on our school website!

• Participate in Site Council!

- All parents/guardians and community members are welcomed to join our State of the School feasts and gatherings (like today!) throughout the school year
- Visit your child's classroom or volunteer at our school
- Parents/guardians are always welcomed, and encouraged, to drop by our school!

We'd love to see you at the following school events:

- Elder Breakfast on Oct. 27th
- Family Conferences on Nov. 2
- State of School Family Feast on Nov. 13
- Feast & Naming Ceremony on Nov. 17
- Feast & Storytelling on Dec. 15
- Chili & Soup Lunch on Jan. 23
- State of the School Gathering w/ Conferences on Feb. 21
- State of the School Gathering on Mar. 27

Plenty more events to come, so please be sure to check our school's website & Facebook page!

School Staff Information

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Pidamaya (ye/do)

Thank you!

