

Summary Report: Redwood Area Schools Submitted by Holly Schmitt

District-Wide

- Communication and collaboration between
- district staff
 - Student support and attendance teams (teaching staff, admin, social work/mental health, Indian Ed, attendance advocate)
 - Parent communication (texts, emails, newsletters)
 - Establishing 1:1 supports and work time for struggling students
- Reinforced tribal consultation relationship
- to work collaboratively and in partnership for Native American students and families (a crucial asset during this time)
- Meal delivery -10 sites, includes weekend meals to families in need and homework distribution (1500 meals a day - lunch for current day/breakfast for the next) and collaboration with Lower Sioux Indian Community (LSIC) to distribute meals to families in the community.

Department

- Creativity - Staff is meeting the challenges
- of distance learning by engaging students through several social media platforms (Instagram & Snapchat) and utilize tried and true methods of communication like phone calls, texts, and snail-mail.
- Care packages - In these challenging times, IE have been polling students on what they need most and assembling care packages to send home. These packages may include materials for study, personal care, or fun items collected from local community artists and Indigenous brands to sustain and nurture their connection to Indian Ed, boost morale, and support Indigenous artists.
- Virtual Wacipi to be held on the previously scheduled day for - May 16th (in place of live in-person RASD wacipi)
- Weekly grade level Indian Education google meets (grades 8-12) with students to connect with staff and classmates.
- Emails sent district-wide to AI families
- on programming updates including our annual Public Hearing presentation and upcoming Indian Parent Committee meeting.
- Working with administration to provide the best possible solution for our 2020 graduates, including a plan to gift our feathers and plumes to our graduates for their caps.
- Planning virtual college tours this summer
- to keep connections with students.
- Quarterly newsletter on our department
- updates, with our upcoming version highlighting our graduates and their plan.
- Lower Sioux Social Services weekly google

- meets with Indian Ed staff for high-risk and social service involved youth.

- YouTube PSA in collaboration with Lower
- Sioux Tribal Council and Education department on the importance of distance learning and resources.

Overall, the demands and challenges of distance learning have necessitated an elevated level of collaboration, communication, and adaptability between our school staff, students and families, and community entities. So far, some factors that have contributed to our success has been our ability to sustain meaningful relationships between these stakeholders, and the ability to assert our programming as a respected, skilled, and reliable district service that is backed with the full confidence and trust of our administration to do what is best for our Indigenous youth and their families.