



Education Department Monthly Newsletter Walker River Paiute Tribe



The Education Department Staff host the 2025 Talent Show event on September 19, 2025.

HOURS OF OPERATION:

M-F 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

TECHNOLOGY CENTER (PUBLIC ACCESS):

M-F 8:30 AM - 2:00 PM

(Please enter through Education Entrance Door)

Main Phone Number:

775-773-2478

Sara Twiss, Education Director Ext. 2160

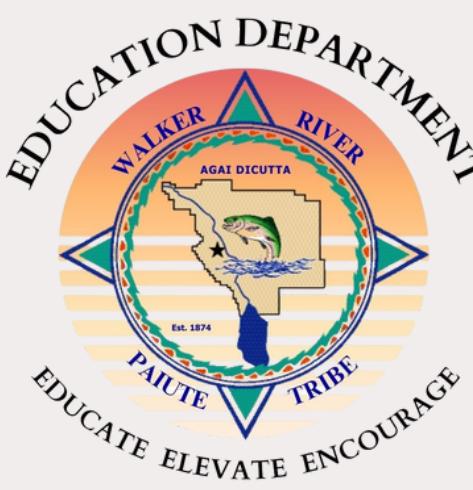
Aimee Johnson, Education Specialist Ext. 2162

Belinda Hooper, NYCP College & Career Coach Ext. 2161

Dawna Jackson, NYCP College & Career Coach Ext. 2163

Ysela Brown, Communal Library Specialist Ext. 2164

Carissa Lockwood-Brown, Academic Tutor Ext. 2164



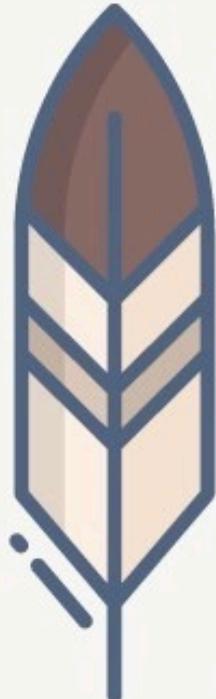
Check out our website for any updated information!

<https://www.wrpt.org/education/>

Important Dates



Application Deadlines



**Higher Education Grant Program
(Including Agai Dicutta Scholarship)**
Aug. 1st for FALL, Dec. 1st for SPRING



**Adult Vocational Training Program
(Including Agai Dicutta Scholarship)**
Dec. 1st, Mar. 15th, Jun. 15th, and Sept. 15th.



Enrichment Program
Dec. 1st, Mar. 15th, Jun. 15th, and Sept. 15th.



For more information about Higher Education Grant, Agai Dicutta Scholarship, the Adult Vocational Training and Enrichment program, please contact our office at 775-773-2306 ext. 2160, or email educationdirector@wrpt.org.



Director's Report



Sara L. Twiss | *She/Her/Hers*

Education Director

Walker River Paiute Tribe | Agai Dicutta Numu

MCRP | University of New Mexico

W: (775)773-2478 ext. 2160

educationdirector@wrpt.org

Education Director Report: SEPTEMBER 2025

Meetings and Travel:

Sept. 3 – Attended Final Pinenut Festival Planning Meeting

Sept. 12 – Education Staff Meeting

Sept. 15 – RMC Research and Evaluation [NYCP Program] On-site visit

Sept. 15 – JOM Student Count Completed

Sept. 15 – AVT/Enrichment Deadline [Collected all applications for 4th Quarter]

Sept. 16 – Attended Special Tribal Council Meeting – Higher Education Appeal

Sept. 17-18 – Attended the Tribal Opioid Summit, Reno, NV

Sept. 19 – Education hosted the 2025 Talent Show event during the Pinenut Festival

Sept. 22 – Attended Special Tribal Council Meeting – Higher Education Appeal

Sept. 23 – Submitted Year 4 Budget for NYCP Program

Sept. 23 – Talent Show receipts and change returned to the Finance Department

Sept. 23 - BOE Member Vacancy Seat Posted

Sept. 24 - Board of Education Regular Meeting

Sept. 25 – Meet with Hope Allen, UNR Extension Program Coordinator, for event planning

Upcoming Events:

Oct. 1 – Begin Education after-school tutoring and transportation services

Oct. 2 - Indian Education Advisory Committee Meeting

Oct. 7 – 11 – Education Director, NYCP Coach, Communal Library Specialist, and Academic Tutor on Travel - NIEA Convention, Spokane, WA

Oct. 15 - Board of Education Regular Meeting

Oct. 20 – 24 – Education Director on Travel - GONA Certified Training, Portland, OR

Oct. 23 - BOE Member Seat Vacancy Closes



Recap on the 2025 Back-To-School Event!

Thank you all for joining our annual Back-To-School event this week! We enjoyed meeting all of the students and families.

Here is our total count for the night:

Number of Attendees: 133

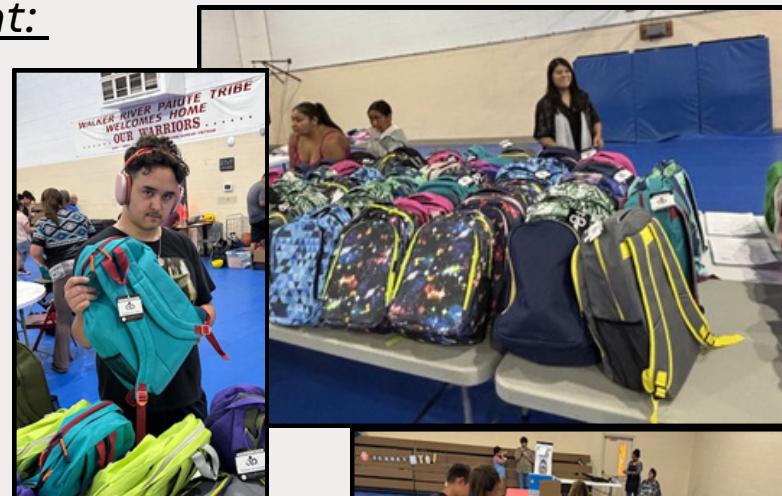
Number of backpacks provided:

Pre-K - 14

Elementary School - 21

Middle School - 28

High School - 24



Number of Tablers: 6

UNR Extension Program

MCSD Title VI

WRPT Boys & Girls Club

WRPT Tribal Health Clinic

WRPT Tribal Library Program

Ping Pow Poom

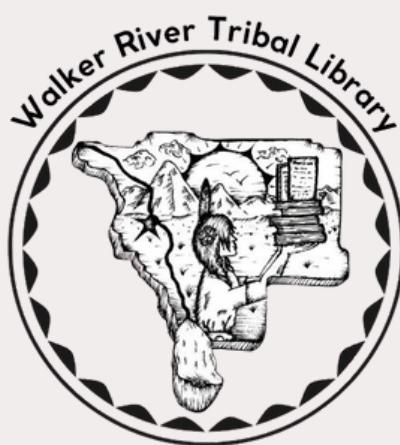
Kids Free Haircuts station



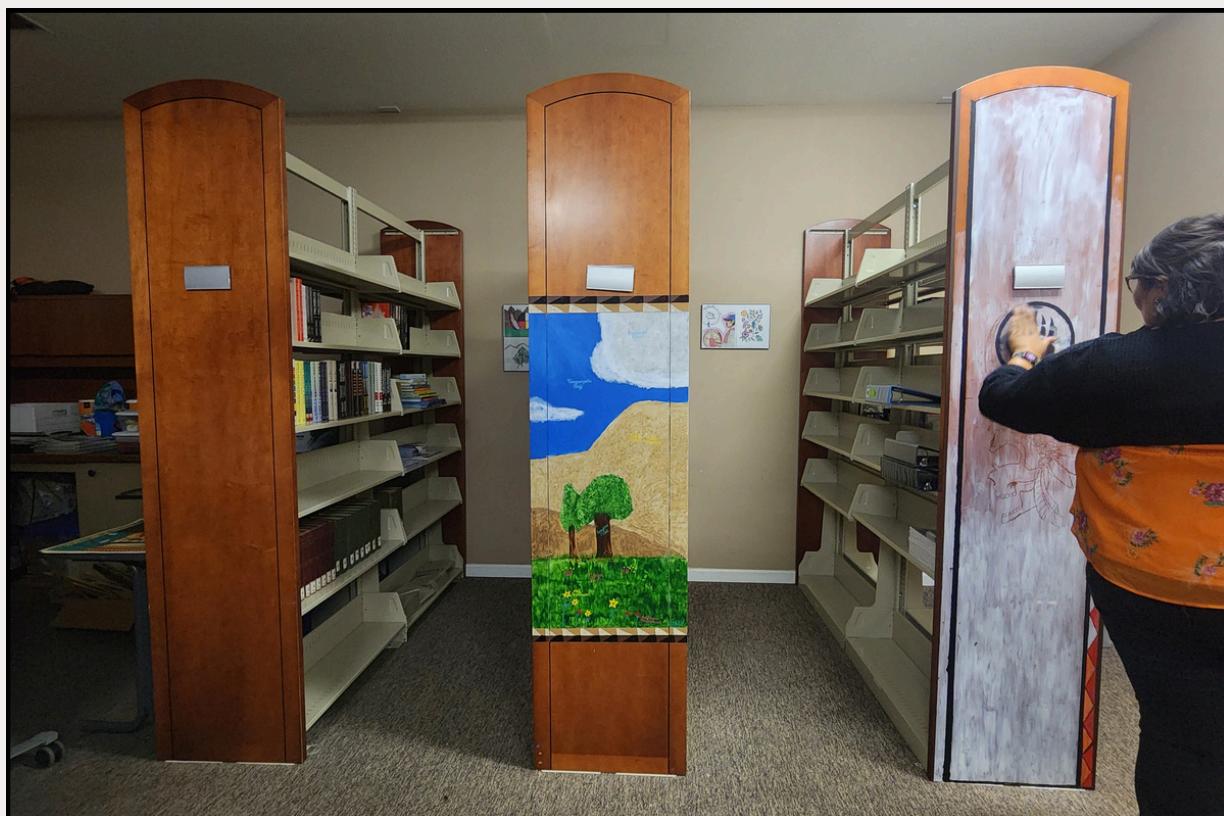
Thank you to all those who helped us setup and prepare for this event including the Education Staff, WRPT Maintenance, and volunteers from The Missionaries! If you need a backpack or school supplies, please come down to the Education Department!

All of this was made possible by an inkind donation from Running Strong for American Indian Youth.

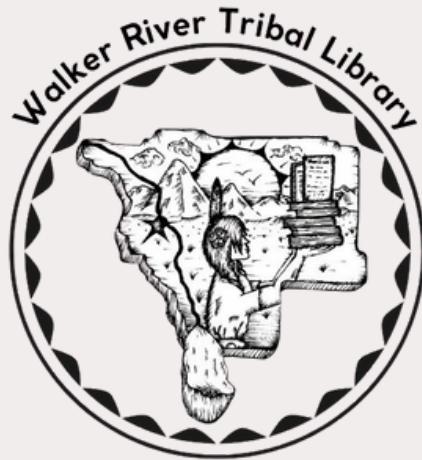
Walker River Tribal Library Program Updates



As we continue to prepare the physical library space for public use, we would like to thank our High School Seniors (Jeralyn Dixon and Diana Jones) for contributing their time and artistic touch to the library bookshelves! The murals depict cultural images, including local landscapes and Paiute language. We look forward to the final touches!



Walker River Tribal Library Program Updates



Our Communal Library Specialist, Ysela Brown, has been conducting regular literacy sessions through the IMLS grant for the Agai Dicutta Elder Center, the Agai Tuamuhvi Nobe (Boys & Girls Club). She is also facilitating readings from the publication, *Walker River Paiutes: A Tribal History*, or the Red Book Readings, and community handgame activities. For the physical library, we are continuing to order supplies such as bar codes, scanners, labels, tech supplies for computers, and money handling necessities for our library to be operational for patrons. We will arrange an opening night for the library to the public very soon!



Education Team in the Community!



The Education Staff received an *in-kind* donation of maternal kits from the Running Strong for American Indian Youth organization. With this donation, we collaborated with the ITCN Breastfeeding Info-Session to help pass out free maternal kits to families.

If you would like a maternal kit or know someone who would like to receive one, please contact our office.



Education Team in the Community!



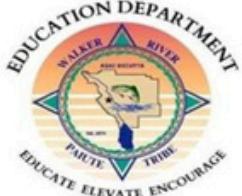
During the week of August 18, the Education staff assisted with the Pinenut Festival clean-up activities! The weeds have grown in and around the playground area after the rainy days we had this summer. Our focus was on the playground areas, picnic tables/BBQ pits, and outdoor basketball court. We had two truckloads of weeds removed and hauled out, just in time for the Pinenut Festival weekend!



2025 Talent Show Event



2025 Talent Show Winners



2025 Talent Show Winner by Category

1st – 4th Grade Category:

1st place- Autumn Kiltz- sang “Set Fire to the Rain” by Adele.

2nd Place- Angel, Esperanza, Daisy- Sang “Golden” by K-Pop Demon Hunter.

3rd Place- Kingsley Loving Gullatt- Danced to Saja Boy- “Your Idol”

5th – 8th Grade Category:

1st place- Nay'a Crowl, Josie Johnson, Tekoa Crowl, Halle Johnson performed “Rock and Roll All Night” by KISS.

2nd Place- Bobby Sanchez Jr. played Guitar “master of Puppets”

3rd Place- Aaliyah Greyson danced to “Shake it Off” by Taylor Swift.

High School Category:

1st place- Aaron Smiley played Guitar.

Adult + Elder Category:

1st place- Aleczandar Guzman sang a hand-drum song.

2nd Place- Larry Lacy performed Free Form Music.

Tiny Tots- Kindergarten Contestants

Name: Rex Gordon Johnson, singing “Ordinary” by Alex Warren

Name: Wren Crowl Sang and danced to “Shimmer and Shine”

Name: Clayton Keady-Singing “Thunder Rolls” by Garth Brooks



NYCP News

RMC Research Evaluation Program Team On-site Visit!



On Monday, September 15, the RMC Research Evaluation Program team completed an annual evaluation study of the Native Youth Community Project (NYCP). The project is designed to help students prepare for college and careers by gathering adequate data from staff, students, parents/guardians, and school teachers/administrators. The purpose of the study is to measure NYCP's benefits over the grant year period (2024-2025). The results of the study will be used to enhance the program and develop a strategic framework for all stakeholders and entities involved in improving the NYCP program.





NYCP News

RMC Infographic

RMC RESEARCH PROGRAM

EVALUATION

WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO



Who are we?

RMC is a privately held professional services firm specializing in research and program evaluation. Headquartered in Portsmouth, NH, RMC has offices in Arlington, VA; Denver, CO; Portland, OR; and Tampa, FL.



Why do we evaluate grants and other programs?

The purpose of program evaluation is to provide program managers and stakeholders with the information they need to make informed decisions. The findings of program evaluation can be used to identify program strengths and weaknesses, inform program improvements, and demonstrate accountability to stakeholders. Funders also use evaluation findings to make decisions about future grant allocations.



What data do we collect?

RMC collects data, such as surveys, interviews, focus groups, observation, and documents. The selection of data collection methods are always based on the evaluation questions and the availability and reliability of data.



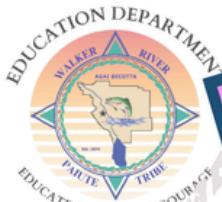
What is IRB?

Institutional Review Boards, or IRBs, review research studies to ensure that they comply with applicable regulations, meet commonly accepted ethical standards, follow institutional policies, and protect research participants. IRB reviews help to ensure that research participants are protected from research-related risks and treated ethically.



How do we protect your data?

RMC protects confidentiality in several ways. All data are presented as a whole or in large groups. Individual information such as names, contact information, and responses are never reported to program managers. RMC also destroys all data collected within 2 years of the study conclusion.



INCENTIVES

For

TUTORING NYCP 7TH-12TH GRADE YIS & YHS



1ST
QUARTER

Ends
10/30/25

NATIVE DESIGN TUMBLER

- Attend 4 sessions of tutoring
- Maintain a passing grade in each class

2ND
QUARTER

Ends
1/29/26

MOVIE TICKETS

- Attend 10 tutoring sessions
- Bring all failing classes up to a passing grade by the end of the 1st semester, if any.

3RD
QUARTER

Ends
4/3/26

LUNCH GIFT CARD

- Attend 9 tutoring sessions
- Have two B's in any class or one A in any core class

Contact Carissa Lockwood
Email: academictutor@wrpt.org
Phone: (775) 773-2478 EXT. 2164

4TH
QUARTER

Ends
6/12/26

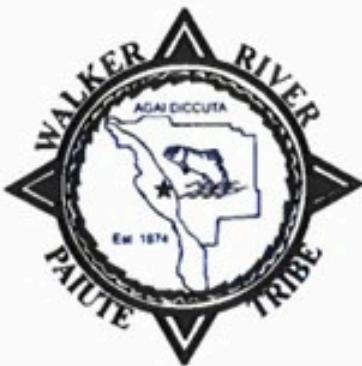
END OF THE YEAR TRIP

- Attend 10 tutoring sessions
- Bring three core classes up to a B or higher by the end of the year!

We are excited to announce a new incentive program designed to encourage students to participate in after-school tutoring, which is available through both YIS and YHS schools and our NYCP Coaches. This program is supported in collaboration through the Johnson O'Malley program, with support from our Academic Tutor, Carissa Lockwood-Brown.

Orange Shirt Day is observed annually on September 30th to honor Indigenous children affected by the residential school system. In Canada it is estimated that approximately 150,000 First Nations, Inuit and Metis children attended residential schools by 1996. It is also known as National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. In the United States, this day serves as a reminder of the historical impact of the U.S. Indian boarding school system on Native American children, recognizing that Every Child Matters.





Walker River Paiute Tribe

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Telephone: (775) 773-2306

Fax: (775) 773-2585

WALKER RIVER PAIUTE TRIBE

Board of Education

Notice of one (1) Vacancy

Vacancy Closes October 23, 2025

The Board of Education comprises five (5) members who serve staggered terms per resolution WR-77-99. There is one (1) vacancy.

Any parent/legal guardian of Indian children in school or whose children are eligible for programs the Walker River Paiute Tribe participates in or is a resident of the local reservation; or any person living on the Walker River Paiute Reservation who has a sincere interest in upgrading and becoming involved in educational opportunities for all tribal and community members.

You may pick up an application from the Education Department or from the Executive Secretary at the Administration Building
M-F, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., or email execsecretary@wrpt.org

ONE (1) vacancy to stay open for thirty (30) days. The Board members meet on the third Wednesday of each month at 5:15 p.m. – 6:15 p.m.
Please request the Board of Education Constitution & Bylaws for more information.