



Education Department Monthly Newsletter Walker River Paiute Tribe



Paiute Language speakers, Education Department, and the Nevada Department of Education convening for the Seal of Biliteracy workshop session from Feb. 5-6, 2026.

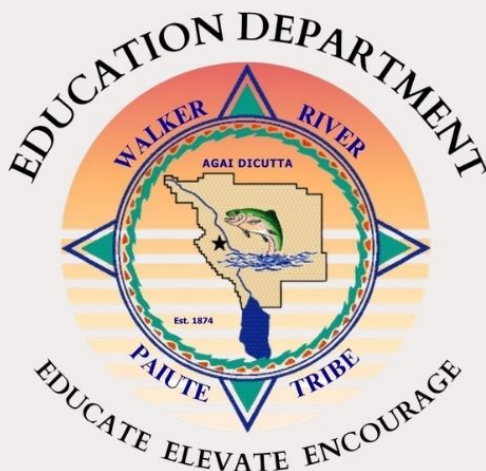
HOURS OF OPERATION:

Regular Office - 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

Carissa Lockwood-Brown, JOM Program

Specialist/Academic Tutor Ext. 2164

Check out our website and YouTube Channel for any updated information!

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

<https://www.youtube.com/@wrpteducation>

CALLING ALL 2025/2026 GRADUATES!



THE WALKER RIVER PAIUTE TRIBE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS PUTTING A CALL OUT FOR ALL 2025-2026 GRADUATES!

Please complete the survey link form if you/someone in your family is graduating from 8th grade, high school, a GED program, or a post-secondary institution. *(This includes those completing a program in the Fall 2025 semester.)* We are including those who are home-schooled/online students who are within these grade levels. This survey is for enrolled members of the Walker River Paiute Tribe, or graduating students who reside in Schurz, NV.



*Use the QR Code here to direct you to the link, or
Be sure to complete a separate form for each student.*

Responses will be accepted until May 1, 2026.

This information is collected for our end-of-the-year honoring ceremony, assists in data collection, and helps our department support students by providing them with educational and career resources. We aim to expand student outreach and establish service-learning opportunities, professional development, and alumni networks.



If you have any questions regarding this survey,
please contact Sara Twiss,
Education Director, at 775-773-2478 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: January - February 2026

Meetings and Travel:

- Jan 22 - 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm: Board of Education Food Fundraiser
- Jan. 22 - 6:00 pm – Special Tribal Council Meeting – Youth Overnight Travel Policy Approval
- Jan 22 - 1 pm - Indian Education Advisory Committee Meeting
- Jan 23 at 8:30 am – Senior Film Event – *Sacred Dog*
- Jan. 28 - 5:30 p.m. – Education Programs “From Start to Finish” Info Webinar
- Feb. 2 at 9 am – Meeting with Truckee Meadows Community College recruiter to schedule tour in the spring
- Feb. 2 at 3 pm – Attended Dicutta UNITY Youth Council regular meeting 3 pm [YPT CC]
- Feb. 3 at 12:30 pm – Began Bi-Weekly Book Club – *The Round House* by Louise Erdrich
- Feb. 3 at 3:30 pm – Began weekly reading sessions with youth at B&G Club
- Feb. 4 at 11 am – Meeting with Great Basin College recruiter to schedule tour in spring
- Feb. 4 at 1 pm - Community of Practice for Indian Education Winter Meeting
- Feb. 4 at 3 pm – 1:1 Meeting with Tribal Executive Officer
- Feb. 5 at 9 am – WRPT Monthly Directors Meeting
- Feb. 5-6 – Seal of Biliteracy Workshop sessions – Developing a Paiute Language Test Exam
- Feb 9 at 1 pm – 2 pm – Microsoft 365 Workshop for Elders [Word Documents]
- Feb. 9 at 2:30 pm – Education Staff meeting
- Feb. 10 at 10 am – NDE Tribal Partnership Workgroup Meeting [Youth GONA]
- Feb 11 at 5 pm – 6:30 pm – Resume Building & Interview Tips workshop for students
- Feb. 12 at 6 pm – Regular Tribal Council Meeting – Education Policies Amendments
- Feb. 13 at 8:30 am - Senior Film Event - *The Story of the Lahontan Cutthroat Trout*
- Feb. 17 at 12:30 pm – Bi-weekly Book Club
- Feb. 18 at 9 am– Meeting w/UNR Community Outreach Specialist for collaborative efforts
- Feb. 24 at 8:00 am – YHS Transportation for ACT testing
- Feb. 24 at 5:15 pm – Regular Board of Education Meeting
- Feb. 25 at 11 am – Great Basin College recruiter tour follow-up meeting
- Feb. 26 at 6 pm – Special Tribal Council Meeting - Education MOU Agreements [LCSD] & NYCP Research & Evaluation Presentation [24/25], Grant Submission – Palms Cares Grant
- Feb. 27 at 8:30 am – Senior Film Event - *The Warrior Tradition*

Winners



Andreas Ridley 10th Grade



Wanovi Williams 10th Grade



Liam Dixon 7th Grade



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

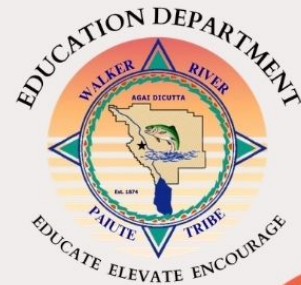
2ND QUARTER Ends 1/29/26
MOVIE TICKETS
• Attend 11 tutoring sessions
• Bring all failing classes up to a passing grade by the end of the 1st semester, if any.

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

4TH QUARTER Ends 6/12/26
END OF THE YEAR TRIP
• Attend 10 tutoring sessions
• Bring all failing classes up to a passing grade at the end of 2nd semester, if any.

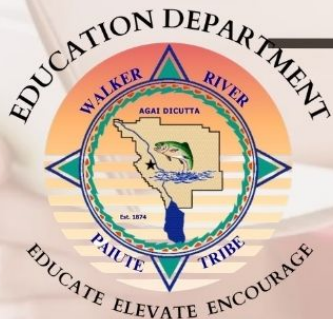
Attend NYCP & your school's tutoring all 4 days, win a mystery prize at the end of the week!

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

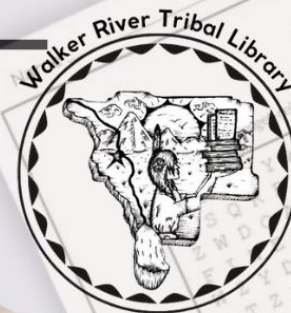


Three awesome students earned movie tickets thanks to their awesome commitment to tutoring and their hard work all semester long. They showed up to every tutoring session, put in the work, and boosted all their grades by the end of the first semester. Their effort paid off big-time, and now they get to celebrate with popcorn and a movie night!

Thank you to the Fallon Tribal Development Corporation for generously providing the movie tickets. Your support helps celebrate our students' hard work and dedication!



Hosted by the
Walker River Paiute Tribe
Education Department



Budgeting & Financial Literacy

FOR ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS & RECENT GRADUATES

Wednesday, March 4, 2026, 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Walker River Tribal Library
(Next to the Food Pantry)

4022 Hwy. 95 N Schurz, NV 89427

- Learn the basics of budgeting
- Practice tracking income vs. expenses (Needs vs. Wants)
- Reduce financial debt and future stress
- Set realistic financial goals for yourself!

How can tracking your spending (apps, spreadsheets) help you meet financial goals?

We can share resources and tools to help you!

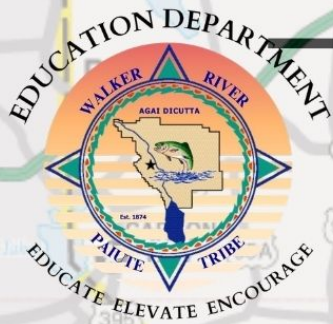
**Contact the Education Team to
arrange transportation!**

Belinda Hooper: 775-493-6893

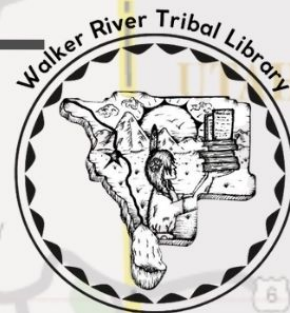
Dawna Jackson: 775-493-6897

Carissa Lockwood-Brown: 775-773-2478 ext. 2164





Hosted by the
Walker River Paiute Tribe
Education Department



Learn Basic Driving Criteria for Permits/Licenses

FOR ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS & RECENT GRADUATES

Wednesday, March 11, 2026, 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Walker River Tribal Library

(Next to the Food Pantry)

4022 Hwy. 95 N Schurz, NV 89427

- Learn the basics traffic laws and regulations
- Learn common road signs and their meanings
- What are some safety driving tips to use (in rural areas)
- What to expect when going in to get your permit or license

Take the Practice Nevada Class C Driver's License Quiz!

**Contact the Education Team to
arrange transportation!**

Belinda Hooper: 775-493-6893

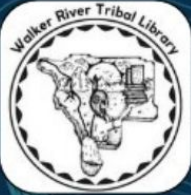
Dawna Jackson: 775-493-6897

Carissa Lockwood-Brown: 775-773-2478 ext. 2164

FREE Nachos and Drinks



UPCOMING WORKSHOPS FOR ELDERS!



MICROSOFT 365 WORKSHOPS FOR ELDERS

Beginning Monday, February 9th, 2026
1:00 - 2:00 pm
at the Tribal Library

Elders in the community, please join us for beginner workshops on the basics of Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.

While we have limited desktop access, we'd love for you to elevate your training experience by bringing your own Chromebook or laptop!



Coffee & Cookies PROVIDED



MICROSOFT 365 WORKSHOP SESSIONS FOR ELDERS

WORKSHOPS SCHEDULE

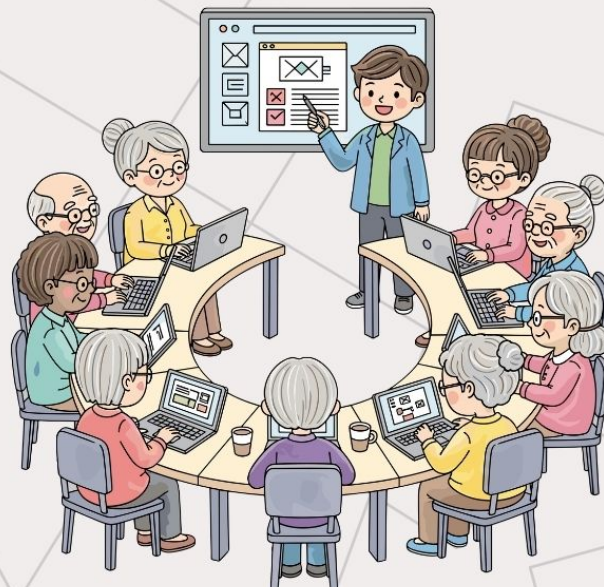
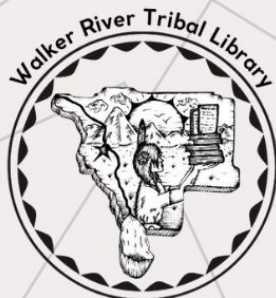
Word Document
Monday, February 9th, 2026
1:00pm - 2:00 pm



Excel Spreadsheets
Monday, March 9th, 2026
1:00pm - 2:00 pm



PowerPoint Presentations
Monday, March 23th, 2026
1:00pm - 2:00 pm



Walker River Tribal Library

The Walker River Tribal Library
presents

Bi-Weekly Book Club

At the Walker River Tribal Library
12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
4022 Hwy. 95 N
Schurz, NV 89427
(Next to the Food Pantry)

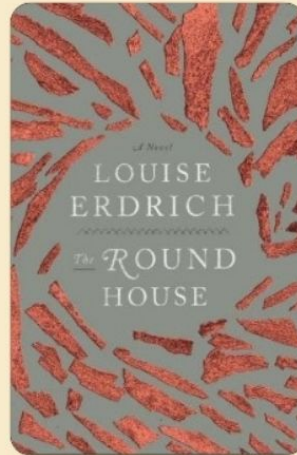
Tuesday, February 3, 2026
Chapter 1: 1988

Tuesday, February 17, 2026
Chapter 2: Lonely Among Us

Tuesday, March 3, 2026
Chapter 3: Justice

Tuesday, March 17, 2026
Chapter 4: Loud as a Whisper

Tuesday, March 31, 2026
Chapter 5: The Naked Now



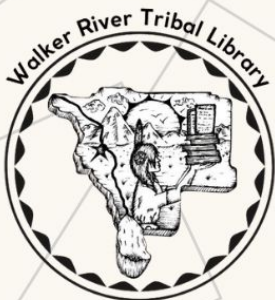
Free Snacks &
Refreshments



Spaces Open!



Contact Education to Reserve your spot!
775-773-2478

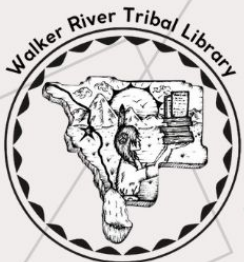


Walker River Tribal Library Seniors Microsoft 365 Event

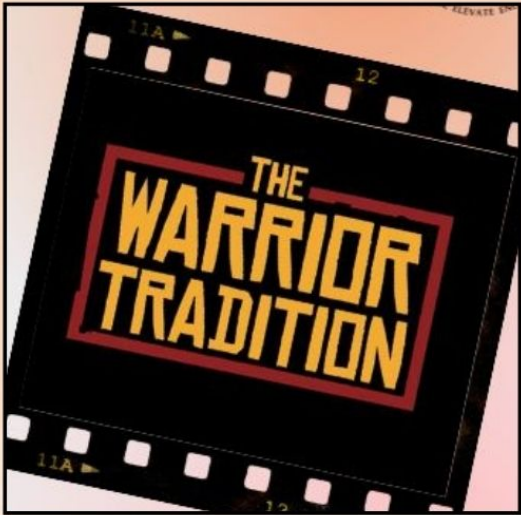


On February 9th, the Education Department hosted a Microsoft 365 Workshop for elders covering the Microsoft Word Document application. Elders were able to learn the basics of using Word for their everyday needs, including making schedules, saving recipes, and utilizing flash drives as a tool for store documents. Elders also learned how to print out their documents for use.

We appreciate working with the Seniors Program to utilize our technology space for a learning environment.

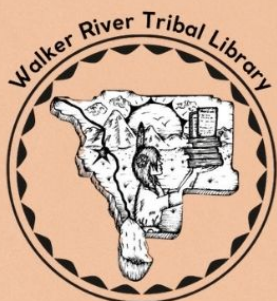


Walker River Tribal Library Senior Film Event



On Friday, February 27, the Walker River Tribal Library program screened the documentary, "Warrior Tradition," a film that tells the astonishing, heartbreaking, inspiring, and largely untold story of Native Americans in the United States military. The film relates the stories of Native American warriors from their own points of view – stories of service and pain, of courage and fear.

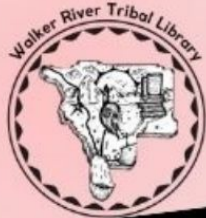
This WNED PBS production premiered in November 2019. Warrior Tradition has been made possible by a major grant from The Corporation for Public Broadcasting: A private corporation funded by the American people. With additional funding provided by The Arthur Vining Davis Foundations, Independent Health and Arizona Humanities.



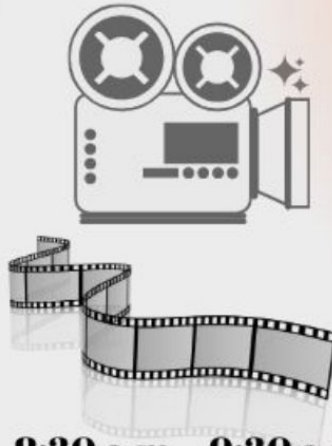
Scan QR Code to Watch!



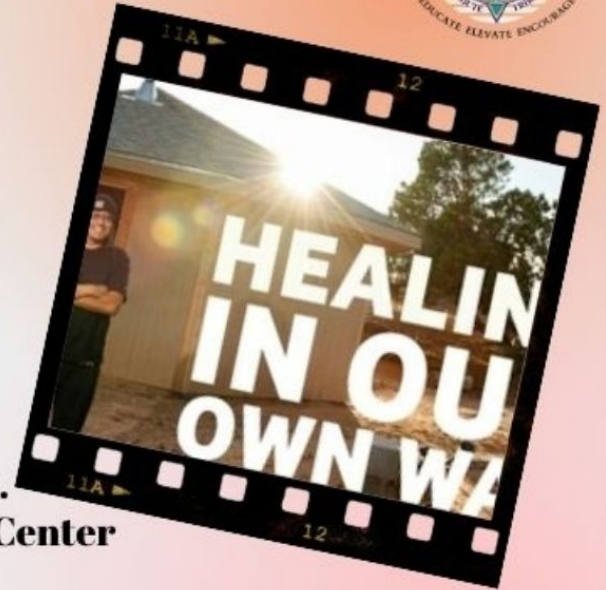
Walker River Tribal Library Senior Film Upcoming Events



Walker River Tribal Library Presents Film Screenings for the Senior Center!



8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
at the Agai Dicutta Elder Center



Friday March 13th 2026

Host Chris Orr journeys through the heart of western Nevada, exploring the historic and cultural roots of Yerington before heading out across the striking landscapes of the Walker Basin.

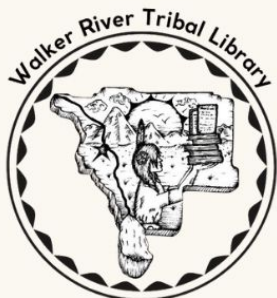
Along the way, she visits local landmarks that preserve the community's past, including the Lyon County Museum and the Jeanne Dini Cultural Center, where art and performance bring Yerington's creative spirit to life. The adventure continues with a sweeping look at Walker Lake, Weber Reservoir, and the surrounding basin, offering a deeper understanding of the region's natural beauty, water story, and ongoing conservation efforts. From small-town history to expansive desert scenery, this episode captures the people, places, and landscapes that define the Walker River region.

Friday April 10th, 2026

Healing in Our Own Way: Native Stories of Life and Dialysis

Chronic kidney disease disproportionately affects Indigenous communities, where access to care (including dialysis) is often limited by geography and resources.

Healing in Our Own Way follows four patients on the Navajo and Hopi reservations, exploring how home dialysis and culturally informed care are expanding options in rural healthcare.



INSTITUTE of
Museum and Library
SERVICES

Upcoming film days: 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

- Friday, March 13, 2026
- Friday, April 10, 2026



NYCP News

On February 4 and 11th, the Education Department delivered two College/Career workshops focusing on Scholarship Writing and Essays, & Resume Building and Job Interview Skills. We had a total of 10 students participate within both workshops. All students received a Native Pathways to College Guidebook created by the American Indian College Fund.



Upcoming College/Career Workshops:

- Wednesday, March 7, 2026
Budgeting & Financial Literacy
- Wednesday, March 11, 2026
Learn Basic Driving Criteria for Permits/Licenses



The Education Department is searching for 3-4 youth who would be interested in riding during this year's Prayer Horse Ride! Please contact us for more information.



IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF MYRON DEWEY

Prayer Horse Ride

WE CONTINUE TO RIDE IN THE VISION
OF OUR ANCESTORS FOR PRAYER,
HEALING, AWARENESS AND UNITY

Ride, walk, or run with us in
prayer for the protection of our
sacred sites, water and relatives
Schurz to Bodie Hills

March 19-25, 2026

To register, donate or for more
information how you can support,
contact: Josh Dini (775) 666-0621



@Prayer_Horse

Come in a good way to carry prayer

- NO drugs, alcohol or violence of any kind
- Please be self-sufficient for yourself and horses including food, water, and gear

Follow socials for updates



Nanesootuhina Pookoo Goobakatudu



prayer_horse



Nevada Department of Education's Annual Indian Education Summit

Save the Date

Thursday, March 26 & Friday, March 27

Summit location: University of Nevada, Reno,
Joe Crowley, 4th Floor



Igniting Change: Improving outcomes for American Indian students in Nevada.

The Nevada Department of Education (NDE) will lead a collaborative summit bringing together Nevada tribes and educators from early learning, K-12 school districts, and postsecondary education across the state to reflect on shared goals, explore innovative solutions, and strategize ways to leverage resources to amplify student voices and drive collective action.

Register Here

Registration Fee: \$125

Registration Deadline: March 6, 2026

Late Registration Fee: \$150

For questions regarding registration or
the payment process, please contact
indianeducation@doe.nv.gov



<https://forms.gle/mdvdxhRPfL6QDZGN9>

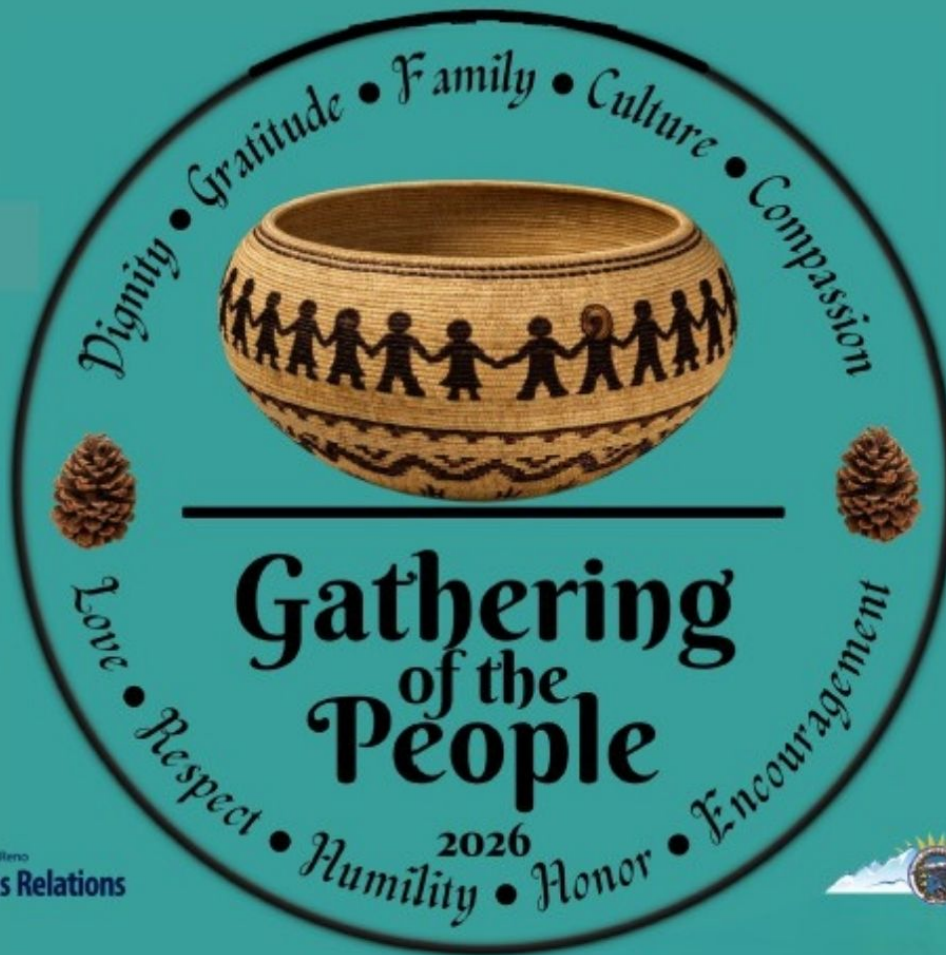
We want to be included in decision-making by having
meaningful ongoing conversations with school districts
that serve our students.

-NV Tribal Leader, 2024 NDE American Indian
Education Summit



The Nevada Department of Education (NDE) works every single day to support students, families, teachers, principals, and administrators throughout our great state to give students the tools they need to build a home, a life, and a future. Our responsibility, in partnership with 28 tribal governments, bands, and communities located on 31 Indian reservations and colonies and 18 districts, is to realize this vision for American Indian students. We strive to achieve this through collaborative decision making, strategic investment of resources, and a commitment to continuously improve outcomes.





YOUTH GATHERING OF NATIVE AMERICANS (GONA)

INDIAN EDUCATION SUMMIT POST-CONFERENCE GATHERING

DATE: Saturday, March 28, 2026

TIME: Registration begins at 9:00 am

PLACE: University of Nevada, Reno, Joe Crowley
4th Floor

FOR AGES: 11 – 20 years old (SPACE IS LIMITED)

Lunch and snacks will be provided.

T-shirts and bags for the first 80 youth who register.

Resource Tables and Raffles.

**For additional information, please contact NDE,
Office for Safe and Respectful Learning Environment:
Daisy Marglin, Program Officer at
daisy.m.marglin@doe.nv.gov OR
Sharon James-Tiger, TISS Project Director at
Sharon.jamestiger@doe.nv.gov**

PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION:

<https://forms.gle/nLGSYBxPTBTxCjdw7>



VOLUNTEER/FACILITATOR REGISTRATION:

<https://forms.gle/scMXlgmU3rUB-fhxZ9>



**** Registration will be open until 3/10/26 however,
If you need assistance with travel please register by 3/6/26 ****



INDIAN TACO

SALE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

**\$10 FOR
1 TACO**



50/50 RAFFLE
3:00-6:00
Next to Subway



**\$5 FOR 1
TICKET**

**\$15 FOR
2 TACOS**



**\$20 FOR
ARMS
LENGTH**

Help the Dicutta Unity Youth Council
fundraise for the Annual UNITY conference in
Oklahoma City!



**WALKER RIVER PAIUTE TRIBE
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
NYCP PROGRAM PRESENTS**



WALKABOUT ON PAIUTE LANDS

A CULTURAL EVENT FOR STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY



APRIL 10TH, 11TH, & 12TH, 2026

LOCATIONS: WHITE MOUNTAIN, WALKER LAKE, MONO LAKE

9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. EACH DAY

**SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER A STUDENT
OR AS AN ATTENDEE!**



**JOIN US FOR AN OUTDOOR EXCURSION OF EVENTS, WITH 3 DAYS OF
HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES. EACH DAY THERE WILL BE KNOWLEDGE-
SHARING OF THE PAIUTE LANDS, STORYTELLING, AND MORE, WITHIN
OUR BEAUTIFUL NUMU/PAIUTE LANDS! THIS EVENT IS OPEN TO THE
PUBLIC, WITH A FOCUS ON PARTICIPATION FROM OUR YOUTH.**

CONTACT THE NYCP COACHES FOR SIGN-UPS!

(775) 773-2478

BELINDA HOOPER, NYCP COACH EXT. 2161

DAWNA JACKSON, NYCP COACH EXT. 2163