
JORDAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Native American Program

NEWSLETTER

Welcome to a Promising New School Year!

Dear Students and Parents,

We are super stoked to welcome you all to the start of a brand-new school year with the Jordan Native American program. We are excited to embark on this new chapter with you all, filled with countless opportunities, personal growth, and academic achievements. Our Native mentors, Lori, Kaitlin, and West, are thrilled and filled with anticipation as we embark on another academic year alongside our dedicated students. As mentors, our primary goal is to support and guide each student in achieving their academic aspirations. We are wholeheartedly committed to fostering a supportive and inclusive environment where students can thrive. Together, we will work tirelessly to ensure that this academic year becomes a stepping stone towards success. Let's make this journey an exciting and rewarding experience for all! Our three mentors have a message for you!



My name is Kaitlin Durfey, and I am excited to join the team as a mentor for high school students in the district. As a proud member of the Navajo Nation, I deeply value the importance of culture/heritage and the impact of lifelong learning. I am originally from southern Utah but have been in the Salt Lake Valley for the past seven years. I am thrilled to be part of this wonderful program and eager to contribute to the growth and success of our students



I'm Lori Packer, and I have been working with the Jordan School District for six years. This is my third year working with the Native American Program, specifically with elementary-age students. I am excited to get to know them better and look forward to a great school year with many plans and activities.



Yá'át'ééh, My Name is Nick West and I am excited to begin another year with the Jordan Natives. I joined this program after teaching on the Navajo Reservation at Chief Manuielto Middle School. My experience on the reservation has taught me a passionate respect and reverence for Native culture and shaped my life in countless positive ways. I look forward to academically mentoring and learning from the Middle School students as they journey on their educational paths and I am wishing you a fantastic school year ahead!

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance plays a vital role in maximizing the learning experience and overall success of our students. Attending classes consistently allows students to actively engage with the curriculum, participate in discussions, and benefit from interactive activities. Building a habit of punctuality and regular attendance not only helps one absorb knowledge effectively but also cultivates responsibility and commitment, setting the stage for a prosperous future. Start off the year with good habits by attending class on time. Parents, if you notice your student is starting to slip in attendance and would benefit from mentor support, please contact us.

ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE

We understand that academics can sometimes be challenging, and we firmly believe in the power of seeking help when needed. Our dedicated team of teachers and staff is committed to providing academic support and guidance. Whether you have questions, need clarification, or require additional assistance, we encourage you to reach out to your mentor to help explore other academic resources available. Together, we will do our best to help our students achieve great academic success.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Jordan Natives program thrives on the collaborative spirit and selfless contributions of our volunteers. We invite parents, community members, and students who wish to make a difference to join us by becoming volunteers and joining our Planning Committee. By getting involved, you can enrich our program and inspire our students; showcasing the importance of community engagement and instilling values of empathy, leadership, and collaboration. Reach out to Malinda Jensen for more information on joining our committee.

SAVE THE DATE

September 5: Fall Family Fair @ the Viridian 4:00-7:00 pm

September 17: Navajo Language classes start via Zoom

September 19: 5th and 6th Grade Field Trip @ Hutchings Museum

September 21: Intermountain Hoop Dance Competition @ Red Butte Gardens

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