

BNAS Board Report August 2026

Book Donations:

on July 21st acclaimed Blackfeet novelist Stephen Graham Jones donated a trailer full of books to the BNAS department. I went through all the books and made a judgment call on which books to keep and which to move out of the district. The books I kept are books from classic literature, such as: Steinbeck novels, H.G. Wells novels, Virginia Wolf novels, Edger Allen Poe poems, various highly acclaimed horror and fantasy novels, etc... I will keep these books and add them to our BNAS library. These books are an amazing gift from the Nebula prize winner and I personally am flattered to receive books from his personal library. Literacy is something BNAS celebrates and it makes out building all the more rich and decorated having these books.

BNAS immersion classes

There have been growing concerns with enrollment and participation within the Blackfeet Immersion classes BNAS staff from all building have been bringing up. BNAS office has met with the concerned individuals and put together a document in good faith to hopefully alleviate those concerns. I have submitted the document to be approved by administration. As a feature of BPS we recognize that out immersion classes can not (and oughtn't) have any special policies or requirements for enrollment and removal for the classes. The document is made in the hopes that we can share our department's expectations for students enrolled within the immersion classes.

Blackfoot Language

BNAS continues to figure out and find ways to ensure effect Blackfoot language instruction, retention, and growth. BNAS has met with all building principals and reaffirmed our need to have all staff in our department to use the designated writing system. In the beginning of the school year we plan on printing out the comprehensive Blackfoot word list for all faculty members within the district. Providing signs is a project we are building towards but providing for the entire district will prove difficult due to costs and aesthetic wants that differ from building to building. Nevertheless, this is merely a road block that we will figure out how to navigate.

Play

BNAS department is inspired to fund and facilitate a high school play this coming year. We will work with the BHS to set a clear date for the show. This is in the infant stages of planning and we are inspired to see this through. It had been over a decade in a half since we had a high school play and we want to remedy this. Our tribal nation has an Oscar nominated actress and we will reach out to her, as well!