

## December 2023 BNAS Board Report

BNAS is excited that the Skylab we purchased is now in use. So far we have brought our dome to the William Buffalo Hide school and the Babb Elementary. It was a good learning experience in seeing the different responses from the diverse age groups. We are currently putting together a team of staff members throughout BPS to learn how to operate and use the Skylab as an immersive teaching tool.

BNAS staff attended to inter-tribal language summit in Billings, MT and the major thing they gained was access to resources and access to creating resources. Lea Whitford has invaluable skills in networking and got a hold of people who help publish children's books. She was gifted a book written by some woman from Blood tribe. The book is amazing, it's called "grandma is an artist." The book is in both Blackfoot and English (it's spelling is in Don Franz). Nevertheless, it's a wonderful thing to come across that spurs many ideas.

The BNAS assessment still had kinks to work out but we are excited for what we have already accomplished. The BNAS instruction coach plans to review and process the data and we will be able to report raw numbers by next meeting. This assessment will help guide our program and help us identify topics we will need to provide PD to our staff but it has already shown the progress BNAS has made in recent years with respect to the Blackfoot Language.

Great strides are being made in creating a cohesive Blackfoot Language curriculum that seamlessly goes from one lesson to the next. The curriculum that grows both one's lexicon (words) and grammar. Basically, we are moving past 'basic Blackfoot' and are providing tools for 'advanced Blackfoot.' Attached are some rough drafts of 'advanced Blackfoot' including a numbers exercise.