## Parent Community Outreach/Childcare~ Nikki Hannon Board Meeting: October 9, 2018

September was extremely busy within the Parent Community Outreach Program. Here are a few highlights:

- Child Care~ Our childcare staff has been very busy getting to know the infants and toddlers and acclimating them to a new schedule after a long summer break. The toddler room has been working on the alphabet, specifically A, B, C and now D.
- Hi-Set~ Hi-Set has seen numerous new referrals. It seems that a younger crowd is taking an interest. (Six of the eight regulars in September where under the age of 20). These students are both walk-ins (ie. Previously dropped out of school), as well as referrals from the William Buffalo Hide Academy. Just as the school district struggles, so does HiSet with consistent attendance. We are currently looking at visiting other programs to learn of best practices and how we can increase our attendance and level of commitment from our students.
- Teen Parent Program~ We are partnering once again with the Blackfeet ManPower
  Teen Parent Coalition to offer a teen parenting class to teen mothers and fathers
  attending the William Buffalo Hide Academy. We will offer this class weekly on
  Tuesdays. We continue to accept new referrals and connect teen parents with necessary
  resources. We have also stocked the school food pantries with diapers and wipes for
  those teen parents in need.
- Families In Transition~ The BPS Adopt-A-Student has grown to just over #200 students referred. We are currently unable to provide sponsors for the most recent referrals; however, we've kept them on the list in the event that additional resources become available.
  - The FIT program has received numerous generous donations of gently used clothing since the beginning of the school year from various community members. Our FIT liaison, JoRae Rattler, has been busy sorting through these donations and delivering them to the various schools' clothing closets.
    - We received a very generous donation (\$3000!) from the Blackfeet Tourism, Parks & Recreation program. We are partnering with the BTPR to host a coat-giveaway on November 2<sup>nd</sup> for students on the Adopt-A-Student list, as well as those students identified as McKinney Vento between now and then. We hope to have extra coats for any other "walkins" who express an unmet need for a coat.
    - We also received a generous donation of used bedding and brand new coats from a secondhand store in Lewistown. The coats will be distributed during the November giveaway, and we've already distributed bedding to 30+ families.
    - We also received a generous donation of school supplies from a couple out of Bozeman. These donations allowed us to fill the 40+ donated

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backpacks with much needed school supplies for students eligible as McKinney Vento, as well as students on the Adopt-A-Student list.

 Our weekend backpack program officially kicked off in mid-September in all grades K-6, including Babb. We also had a pallet of healthy food delivered to each food pantry at the Academy, BHS and BMS. We special-ordered supplemental items for Babb; and the school nurses had requested healthy snacks for diabetic students so we have fulfilled that request as well.

The mission of the Parent Community Outreach Program is to serve as a resource to the school district and our community in a collaborative effort to keep our students in school until graduation.

We invite you to stop by the annex for a cup of coffee and conversation.