



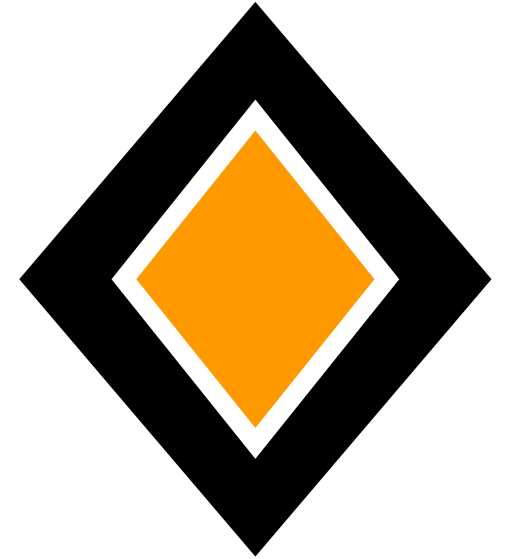
# American Indian Program

St. Louis Park Schools  
February 25, 2025

# American Indian Parent Advisory Committees (AIPACs)

[Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.78, subdivision 1,](#)  
States that all American Indian and Public Schools:

In which there are a minimum of 10 American Indian students enrolled must establish an American Indian Education Parent Advisory Committee. (AIPAC)

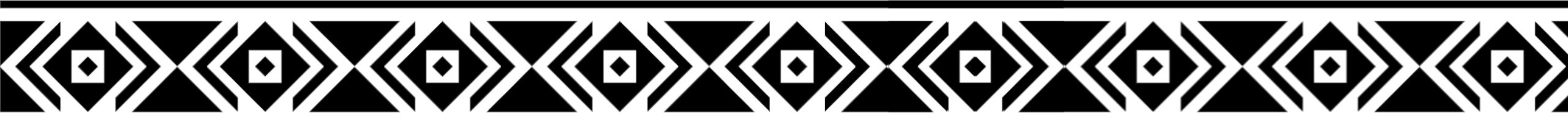


# AIPAC Membership

- AIPAC's comprise of parents and/or guardians of American Indian students within St. Louis Park Schools.

Eligible committee members include American Indian Secondary students, and American Indian District staff.

Non-Native District staff participates in the AIPAC meetings, but are not permitted to be voting committee members, and should not be included on the AIPAC roster.



American Indian Parent Advisory Committee (AIPAC), serves in an advisory role and help ensure that American Indian students are receiving culturally relevant and equitable educational opportunities.

AIPAC is critical to the achievement and success of American Indian students in St. Louis Park and offer a valuable opportunity to strengthen our district and parent partnerships.



St. Louis Park Public Schools has two grant funding sources to support American Indian students and families in the district

American Indian Education Aid through the Minnesota Department of Education

Title VI Indian Education grant through the US Department of Education.



# AIPAC Goals

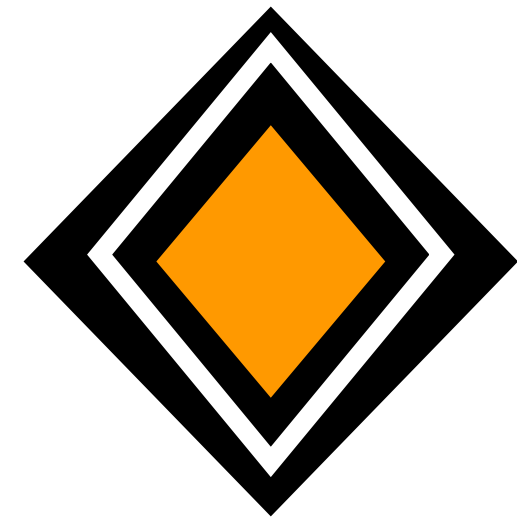
**Area 1:** Support Post-Secondary Preparation for American Indian Pupils

**Area 2:** Support the Academic Achievement of American Indian Students

**Area 3:** Make Curriculum Relevant to the Needs, Interests, and Cultural Heritage of American Indian Pupils

**Area 4:** Provide Positive Reinforcement of the Self-Image of American Indian Pupils

**Area 5:** Develop Intercultural Awareness Among Pupils, Parents, and Staff



## Area 1: Focus Area: Support Postsecondary

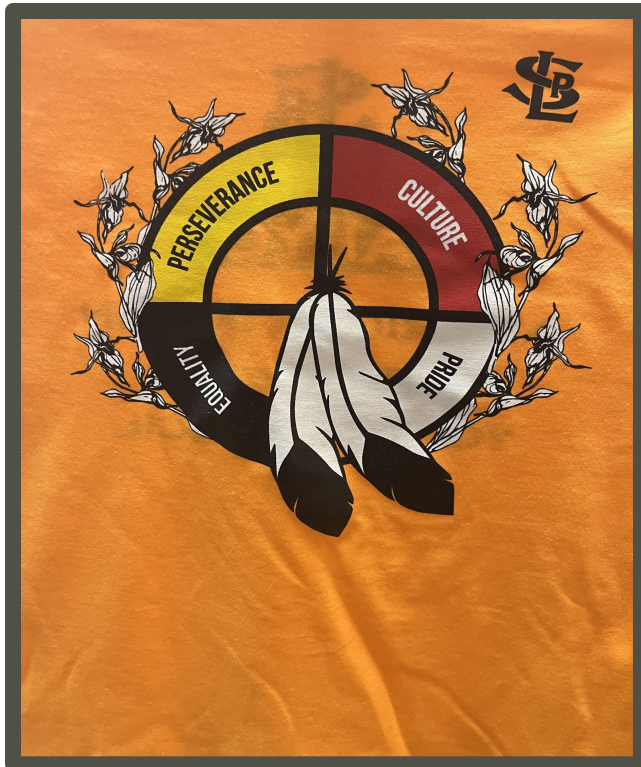
Out of the 6 American Indian students at the High School last year, only 3 were registered in an Advanced Placement (AP) course. Efforts were made during the 2023-24 school year to increase the number of advanced course placement options so that at least 60% of American Indian students are registered in an advanced course (AP, Honors, PSEO, etc.).

In preparation for post-secondary education, at least two (2) events were planned and other opportunities were added.





**“The most important thing I’ve heard from them is how they feel like they have found a community, and that’s important, especially in high school, to keep people engaged and to keep them wanting to be here,” McBride-Bibby said. “You have to have a purpose for being here.”**





## **Area 2-Focus Area: Academic Achievement**

The goal in this area was to increase attendance for American Indian students in the Middle School and High School to 90% attendance. In 2022-23, attendance for secondary Indigenous students was in the 88% range.

## **Area 3-Focus Area: Curriculum Relevant**

Recommendations and material purchases were made with the District in collaboration with the district's American Indian Parent Advisory Committee (AIPAC) and American Indian Intertribal Youth Council (AIYC). Implementation began this school year with the leadership of Jill Merkle.



# Frank Big Bear, an Ojibwe artist





Ojibwe celebration at  
the Primary Years  
elementary schools with  
the Ojibwe Language  
and Cultural Specialist!





# Laughing Fox

Visit all elementary schools



**Michael Charette**  
a member of the Red Cliff band of  
Lake Superior Chippewa Indians

*Tales of Laughing Fox is a Musical Journey of assortments of flutes and stories.*



## **Area 4-Focus Area: Provide positive reinforcement**

The American Indian Intertribal Youth Council (AIIYC) met five times last year at the HS.

During the 2023-24 school year, there was an increase of 5 students (total 12) that attended the AIIYC meetings.





# American Indian Intertribal Youth Council (AIIYC)



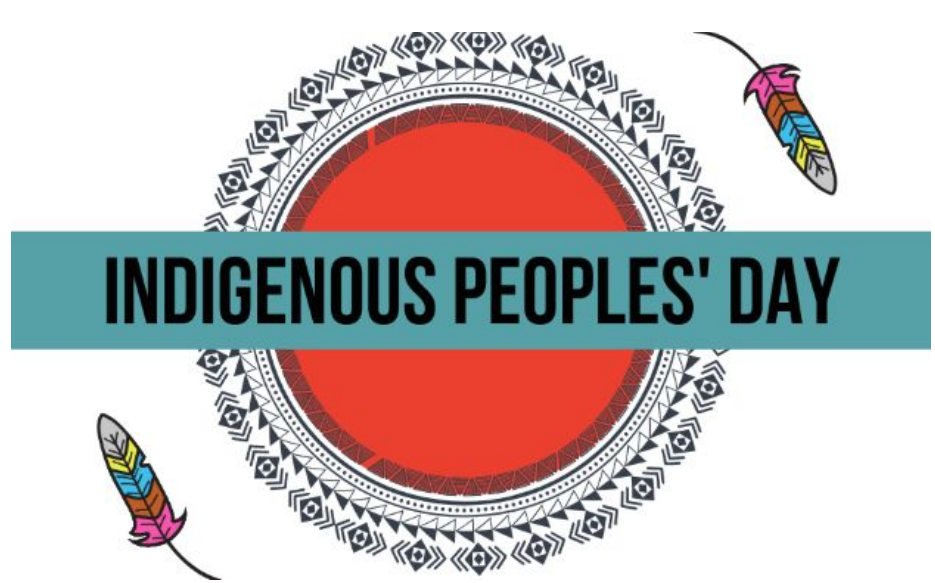


## **Area 5-Focus Area: Develop intercultural awareness among pupils, parents, and staff**

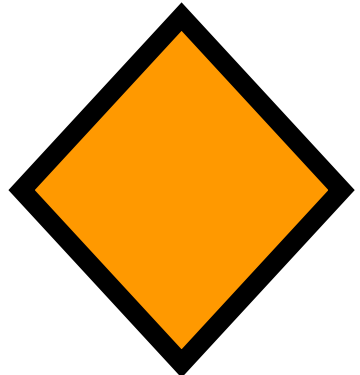
AIPAC's goal in 2023-24 to increase more than 75 Indigenous and non-Indigenous families attendance during district wide events. They were able to meet the goal to 300 families/guardians.

District-wide events and family gatherings were promoted in collaboration with Dir. Patrice Howard, Community Education.

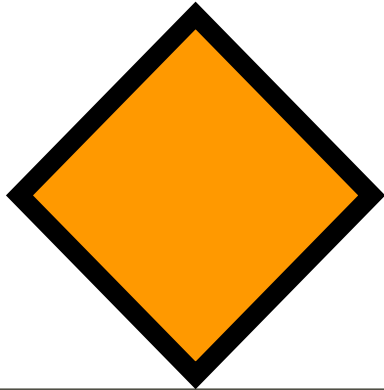




**Julia McBride-Bibby**  
**Samantha DeFoe**  
**Maria Reyes**







# Art Series



**NATIVE CRAFT CIRCLE**

- March 23
- April 6
- April 13

Sewing  
Crafting  
Coloring

**Native Craft Circle**

The American Indian Parent Advisory Committee invites community members to learn about and create Indigenous regalia. Please join us for a fun, family Saturday crafting circle.

- March 23



**AIPAC COMMUNITY CELEBRATION**

- April 20
- 2-6 pm

Drums  
Food  
Games  
Dance

 St. Louis Park Public Schools

**AIPAC Community Celebration**

The American Indian Parent Advisory Committee invites community members to join in celebration. Please join us for an event filled with games, food, and music!

- April 20
- 2-6 pm

SLP Middle School  
Field House 1

## Community Engagement





## American Indian Parent Advisory Committee Hosts Cultural Community Celebration

For the first American Indian Parent Advisory Committee (AIPAC) Community Celebration, more than 100 attendees turned out for a day of food, culture, and games. Families and community members in attendance experienced an unforgettable day of cultural immersion and learning.

***"We were thrilled to see the incredible turnout and enthusiasm from our community," said Julia McBride-Bibby, St. Louis Park Public Schools cultural liaison. "Events like these are not only about celebrating culture but also about coming together as a community to support and uplift one another. We are grateful for the opportunity to host such a meaningful event."***





# FREE BOWLING NIGHT

MONDAY, JUNE 3, 6:00-8:00

AT PARK TAVERN

FREE  
FOOD!

FREE  
SUMMER FUN  
PRIZES!



Our Indian Education program invites you and your family to a fun-filled night - free bowling and free food! We have reserved a School Group package for up to 150 individuals at Park Tavern. Please reserve your family spot by filling out [THIS FORM](#) online, or calling/texting the number below. Registration will close when the 150-guest limit has been reached. Respond today! Food service begins at 6:30 pm (Pizza Buffet and Juice/Water) Please note: we are serving through catering services and must provide the most accurate number for pre-ordering. Bowling lanes - 10 open bowling lanes ending at the 11th frame. Event seating - We have reserved seating for families in the 11th frame seating area to gather, check-in and to take breaks in between bowling/play.

## PARK TAVERN

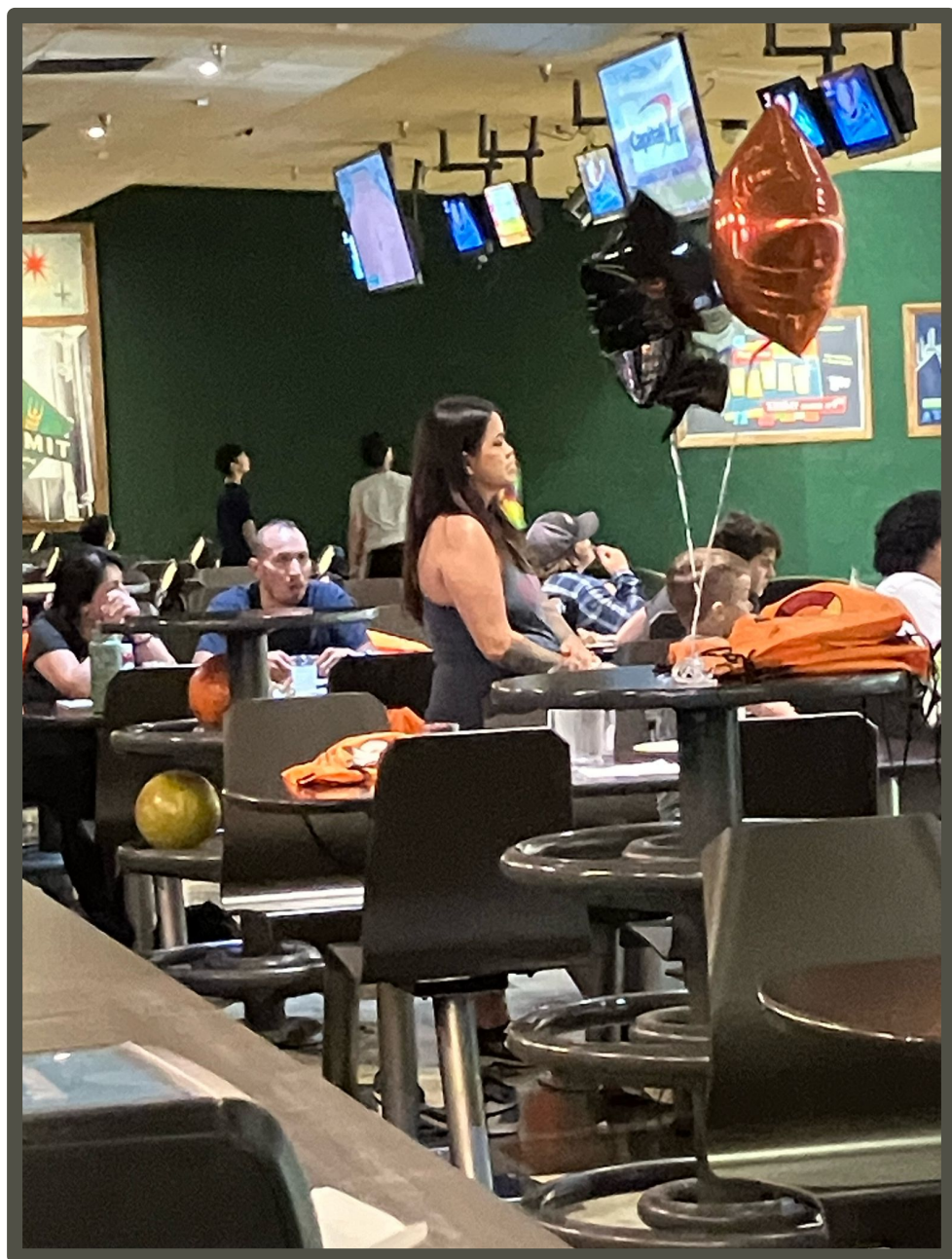
3401 Louisiana Ave S,  
St Louis Park, MN 55426

CALL OR TEXT FREIDA BAILEY  
TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT

AT: (612) 7167443













# AIPAC Committee Members

Scott Shoemaker-Chair



Samantha DeFoe-Co-Chair



Tahra Bielous-Secretary



## The Resolution of Concurrence or Nonconcurrence (Annual Compliance)

On January 30, 2025, SLP AIPAC met to discuss whether or not they concur with the educational offerings that have been extended by St. Louis Park School to American Indian students.





## Julia McBride-Bibby

Thank you for your dedication, support and love for the community!

She was a positive bright light to all of us and was determined to ensure students and families were given opportunities they deserved!

