

Pathways to Success in School and Beyond for Native American Youth from a Reservation in Montana

Interview Protocol

Biographical Information

1. What is your name?
2. How old are you?
3. What year in school are you?
4. What are interests you have outside of school?
5. Do you speak any languages other than English?
6. How do you get to school every day?

Experiences at Buffalo Hide Academy

7. How long have you been a student at Buffalo Hide Academy?
8. How is it you came to be a student Buffalo Hide Academy?
9. If you were to describe Buffalo Hide to a friend from another school district, what would you say?
10. Has anything at Buffalo Hide surprised you? Or different than you expected it would be?
11. Can you share a memorable experience you've had at Buffalo Hide?
12. How does your experience at Buffalo Hide compare to experiences you've had at other schools? Why do you think your experiences are different here? (If they are.)
13. For you, what does it mean to be academically successful?
14. Is academic success important to you? Why or why not?
15. Do you feel challenged academically and intellectually at Buffalo Hide?
16. What other classes or programs do you wish were available at Buffalo Hide?
17. What is one thing you think Buffalo Hide does exceptionally well?
18. What is one thing you think could be improved at Buffalo Hide?

19. Do you feel like the teachers and staff at Buffalo Hide know and value you as a person? Can you provide an example/story? What does this look like at Buffalo Hide? How is this different than at other schools?
20. What do you like about the physical building of Buffalo Hide?
21. If Buffalo Hide received money to make additions/changes to the building, what suggestions would you make?
22. Do you think your experiences at Buffalo Hide have influenced your life outside of school? If yes, how?
23. How do you think success should be measured at Buffalo Hide Academy?
24. Part of this purpose of this project is to develop a survey to give to students so the teachers here can know how well they are doing. What questions do you think should be on the survey?

General Experiences as a Student

25. How would you characterize yourself as a student?
26. How have other people in your life characterized you as a student?
27. Do you participate in school-sponsored extra-curricular activities?
28. Do you have a favorite subject or area of study?
29. How do you feel about your reading and writing abilities?
30. Do you enjoy writing? Art? Athletics?
31. Do you want to go to college after high school? If yes, which one? Why?
32. Do you have a particular career or life goal for yourself at this time?
33. What are your aspirations beyond high school?

Additional Questions

34. How motivated are you to come to school every day?
35. Do you have a job? Do you want to continue this job? Do you have a dream job?
36. How do you identify yourself in terms of cultural identity?

37. [If they identify as Blackfeet] When you say you identify as Blackfeet, how does that mean to you? Do you think others would have different ideas about what it means to be Blackfeet?
38. How are you successful...in life? In school? Do you think others have different expectations of success?
39. If you could create a dream school for 100 people like you, what would that school be like? How well is Buffalo Hide doing in being that dream school?
40. Why are you willing to participate in this study?
41. What questions do you have for me/us?