

Title VI Youth Services

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2025

WHAT IS TITLE VI?

The Title VI grant is funded to provide a “unique and culturally related” educational experience while ensuring that “Indian students gain knowledge and understanding of Native communities, languages, Tribal histories, traditions, and cultures” and that school leaders and staff who serve Indian students are able to provide them “culturally appropriate and effective instruction”.

Aligning with the CTUIR Education Department mission and goals, Title VI focuses on learning literacy (pinášukwat) by connecting the students with their ancestral past through methods that are based in Tribal traditions

The Youth Services team strives to provide the support our students need to succeed by making sure they and families are connected to necessary resources, receiving academic assistance, and are participating in Indigenous Ways of Knowing, with the goal of increasing graduation rates and preparing students for economic sovereignty.



UPCOMING EVENTS

February 6th - Teacher of Year Nomination Submission Deadline

February 11th - NCS - wear orange to promote respect and healthy relationships for Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month!

February 14th - Valentines Day

February 17th - No School for PSD and AW

February 20th - PELC Family Night and Early Kindergarten Registration

February 26th - PHS Forecasting Night



DOES YOUR STUDENT QUALIFY?

If your student, yourself, or a grandparent is an enrolled member of a Federally Recognized Tribe or Band or if your student is a descendant of a parent or grandparent who meets these requirements, your student qualifies.

A 506 form needs to be completely filled out and returned to your respective Indian Education Coordinator, the school's front desk, or the Title VI Youth Services Manager. Use the QR code below to access a fillable 506 form:



News of Recently Released Graduation Cohort and Dropout Data

Pendleton School District areas of success:

- 5% increase in general graduation rate
- 2% increase in Hispanic student graduation rate
- 2% increase in students w/disabilities graduation rate
- 7% increase in 4-year completion rate
- No “gap” between general population and Native American students or between white students and Native American students
- Student dropout rate lowered by 1% to 3.8% as compared to previous year
- Exceeded state average in every area except dropout rate and 5-year completion rate

Check out the full article at
[PSD Announcements](#)

Tribal Attendance Promising Practices



SUNRIDGE HIRES ON NEW TAPP FAMILY COORDINATOR, RAY FOX.

Tribal Attendance Promising Practices is a program that is designed to support the attendance of AI/AN youth. “The intent of the collaboration is to strengthen the links between Oregon Tribes and the schools that serve any student identifying as American Indian/ Alaska Native (AI/AN), even if the student is not a member of a federally recognized tribe.” [Oregon.gov TAPP Information](https://www.oregon.gov/TAPP/Information)

As the TAPP Family Advocate, Ray is tasked with monitoring student attendance, reaching out to families regarding attendance, provide attendance incentives, host Family Nights, and more. Title VI has always worked beside the TAPP program to help address attendance issues at Washington and we are incredibly excited to have that opportunity at Sunridge now as well.

Title VI Youth Services

UPDATED COORDINATOR LOCATIONS!

**WYNNEMA
THURMAN**

Washington Elementary
School (Wednesday-Friday)
and Pilot Rock School
District (Monday and
Tuesday)

541-969-1247

MICAH READING

Pendleton High
School (Monday-
Wednesdays)
Athena-Weston School
District (Thursday-
Friday)

**GAYLA
BLANKENSHIP**

PELC, Sherwood,
McKay

541-975-0520

**RACHEL
GUARDIPEE**

Nixyaawii Community School

541-969-7864

CARA GREENE

Sunridge
Middle School

541-561-2646

TALIA TEWAWINA

Indian
Education
Classroom
Sunridge and
PHS

541-969-7885





OREGON'S
TEACHER *of the* YEAR

NOMINATE OREGONS TEACHER OF THE YEAR!

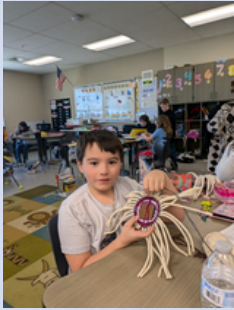
**ENTER YOUR
SUBMISSION BY
FEBRUARY 6TH! CLICK
THIS LINK BELOW OR
SCAN THE QR CODE TO
SHOW YOUR SUPPORT:**

**OREGON TEACHER OF
THE YEAR**

SCAN ME



STUDENT SHOUTOUTS!



EMRYS KERBY-SHIPPTOWER IS IN 4TH GRADE AT SHERWOOD IN MRS. K SAMP'S CLASS. HE HAS WORKED VERY HARD LEARNING TO WEAVE A GATHERING BAG AND IS VERY PERSISTENT!



ROMAN MASCARENAS IS IN 3RD GRADE AT MCKAY. HE IS A HARD-WORKING STUDENT WITH A GREAT SMILE!



IRVIN STEWART IS A NCS FRESHMAN WHO HAS WORKED HARD THIS YEAR IN THE CLASSROOM AND ON THE COURT! KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK!



GARIAN MCDONALD HAS BEEN A SELF STARTER ON HIS BASKET PROJECT. HE NEEDED A SMALL AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE IN THE BEGINNING BUT HAS ALREADY COMPLETED ONE BASKET IN 9 DAYS. HE IS READY TO START A NEW BIGGER BASKET. HE CONTINUES TO IMPRESS ME WITH HIS CREATIVE SKILLS.



SAMARAH EAGLEHEART HAS BEEN VERY DETERMINED TO WORK HARD TO GET HER GRADES UP IN MATH CLASS. SHE IS VERY RESPECTFUL AND UPBEAT ABOUT SCHOOL!



Did you miss out on a newsletter or would like to revisit an edition? Good news! Title VI Newsletters have been uploaded to the CTUIR website! Check out the link below!

CTUIR - TITLE VI YOUTH SERVICES

Recent Staff Changes:

Wynema Thurman is serving Washington Elementary School while remaining at Pilot Rock.

Micah Reading will be joining our team on February 3rd and will be serving Athena Weston School District and Pendleton High School. Once he has been onboarded, his contact information will be available on the website.

WAY TO GO CARA!

STAFF HIGHLIGHT!

STAFF HIGHLIGHT!



Sunridge Middle School
Staff Shout-Out

Cara Greene

is being recognized for:

Cara Greene- she makes sure that the students are seen and heard. She builds her relationships through caring and understanding. She keeps the communication transparent with the students about expectations and their growth. She has been consistent in her work and it shows when the students interact with her.

"Excellence in education is when we do everything we can to make sure they become everything they can."
-Carol Ann Tomlinson





Title VI Needs Assessment Survey



WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO COMPLETE?

The Title VI Needs Assessment Survey helps:

- Assess current program performance
- Identify the specific services and resources that students and families need
- Ensures that the program is formatted to make the biggest impact
- Identify areas of improvement based on real input by the target population
- Determine where resources will be most effectively allocated
- Facilitate evidence-based decision-making
- Ensure involvement of families and community members in the program development process
- To collect baseline data



Complete the survey to enter into a virtual raffle! **Note: including your email/contact information on the survey is required to enter the raffle. Otherwise, you do not have to include your contact information.** Raffle items include a camp cook supply basket and a home necessities basket! The two raffle winners will be chosen once the number of survey responses reaches 50.



Use the QR code below to take the survey and enter the raffle!

Enter to Win

