

# NATIVE YOUTH COMMUNITY PROJECT

## Q1 Progress Toward Meeting Project Goals

February 2024

The Nevada Department of Education's (NDE's) Native Youth Community Project (NYCP), in the second year of its second grant, seeks to prepare American Indian (AI) students in Grades 7-12 for college and careers using a three-fold plan that includes (a) the support of College and Career Coaches and School Community Liaisons; (b) activities designed to improve student academic performance; and (c) community collaborative events. Students and community members from three tribal groups in three geographic locations receive support in these efforts. Members of the Walker River Paiute Tribe (WRPT) and Yerington Paiute Tribe (YPT) attend school in the Yerington and Hawthorne, NV, areas. Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone tribal members attend school in the McDermitt, NV, area (see Exhibit 1). Across the two regional sites, 83 students in Grades 7-12 participated in the first year of the project's implementation.

In Quarter 1, NYCP project staff worked towards finalizing financial and budgetary requirements as well as conducting and planning future activities to prepare students for college and careers.

### **Goal 1: Implement a successful NYCP that promotes and prepares AI students for college or careers, with an emphasis on careers in the teaching profession.**

#### **Community Collaborative Events**

- The Nevada Department of Education (NDE) is preparing for the Indian Education Summit, March 26-28, 2024. The 26<sup>th</sup> will be a tribal day, and the 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> will be the Indian Education Summit.
- The Walker River Paiute Tribe's Education Department hosted a Youth Bash Culture Night for the New Year as a way to build student motivation for the second semester of school.
- The Humboldt County School District had its end-of-the-year academic celebration. By all accounts, it went *fantastically* well. Speakers talked to students about mental health and the college tuition waiver. Students took part in a number of activities, including singing a round dance song and receiving certificates for attendance and honor roll. The event was tied in with a Christmas party.



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### Participant Characteristics

The number of participants at each site (exhibit 1) ranged widely, from a high of 89% to a low of 13%.

**Exhibit 1. Number of AI and Number (Percent) NYCP Students, 2023-24 School Year**

*An average of 68% of AI students participated in NYCP across all sites.*

Grade	McDermitt		Yerington		Mineral Co.		Across Sites	
	AI	NYCP	AI	NYCP	AI	NYCP	AI	NYCP
	N	N (%)	N	N (%)	N	N (%)	N	N (%)
7	11	11 (100)	17	12 (71)	2	1 (50)	30	24 (80)
8	13	13 (100)	14	12 (86)	8	0 (0)	35	25 (71)
9	8	7 (88)	11	4 (36)	3	0 (0)	22	11 (50)
10	12	11 (92)	13	11 (85)	1	0 (0)	26	22 (85)
11	3	2 (67)	11	8 (73)	1	0 (0)	15	10 (67)
12	9	6 (67)	18	7 (39)	1	1 (100)	28	14 (50)
<b>Total</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>50 (89)</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>54 (64)</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>2 (13)</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>106 (68)</b>

### Activities Focused on Careers in the Teaching Profession

- NDE is looking for Career and Technical Education (CTE) classes specifically designed for AI teachers as a pathway for a career in teaching, as well as exploring CTE “Grow Your Own” teacher models.

### Staff Changes or Updates

- In McDermitt, the Paiute language teacher nominee completed the language paperwork and is working with NDE to get the teacher Language Endorsement.
- A new College and Career Coach for WRPT Tribe started this week and is getting access to Infinite Campus.

### Communications With Schools/Professional Development

- Walker River College and Career Coach Dawna Jackson attended the 2023 National Indian Education Conference (NIEA) in Albuquerque, NM, and spoke about her positive experience working as a College and Career Coach and elaborated on the college tours she had chaperoned in the past.
- College and Career Coaches will implement trauma-informed care/practices with AI students as they prepare them for college and careers and serve as a model for how coaches work with AI students.
- NDE held monthly College and Career Coaches meetings to discuss issues and answer questions. There is a check-in tool that will be used during NDE monthly meetings to



collect and report data. It will also be used as a planning tool. The College and Career Coaches meeting will be on the second Tuesday of the month.

- NDE held a training for all Walker River College and Career Coaches during the week of December 18-22, 2023. Student Academic Learning Plans were discussed, along with professional learning sessions for the NYCP college coaches on best practices for effective advocacy.
- The monthly coaches meeting was held on December 12, 2023. Items discussed included completing Student Academic Learning Plans and gathering student data, which will be needed for the spring Annual Performance Review.
- The January monthly coaches meeting included a discussion on the check-in tool and academic plan template or a completed plan to share.
- Communications was identified a challenge in the AER.

### Parent Outreach

- The Walker River College and Career Coach held a Boys and Girls Club Re-registration Night and gave a small presentation at the Schurz Community Center to parents about what to expect for the upcoming sixth grade students about the NYCP. Approximately 13 parents and 25 students (including 4 NYCP students) attended.
- McDermitt Combined School hosted a parent night and welcomed seventh graders into the NYCP community. McDermitt plans to continue spreading the word about NYCP through November and December to ensure parents and guardians are aware of the grant.
- Parent outreach was identified as a challenge in the AER.

## Goal 2: Increase student academic performance by including opportunities in the local community to support students.

### Academic Learning Plans

McDermitt has been engaged in tracking students so that their academic learning plans can be developed and communicated to parents.

### Academic Tutoring and Credit Recovery

There were no tutoring or credit recovery activities reported this quarter.

### Goal 3: Increase student motivation and readiness to attend college or vocational training.

#### College Visits and College Camps

- NDE will disseminate the *University of Nevada, Reno Native Students Lead* report and put it on the NDE site.
- NYCP participants visited Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC). Two NYCP coaches attended, as well as 15 students. They toured two campuses: 1) The Dandin Campus focuses on accounting, business, education, and child development, etc. They offer certificates, degrees, and transfer degrees; 2) William N. Pennington Applied Technology Center specializes in welding, automotive, HVAC/R, diesel, etc. The students were more interested in the second campus.
- Mylo Smith, a motivational speaker, came to the Walker River Reservation community and presented an impressive motivational performance. There were approximately 18 kids and 11 adults (8 NYCP students and 2 out-of-town fans) in attendance. His presentation was geared towards the youth about drug addiction, alcoholism, abuse, childhood trauma, completing school, and being successful in whatever they want to be in their future, no matter where they come from.
- WRPT took a group of students to Western Nevada College (WNC) for a college tour of the nursing and welding programs. Students enjoyed the trip, and college coaches had the opportunity to get to learn many of the students' interests. About 17 students attended the trip, but only 12 surveys were collected. (Dec. Agenda Item 3)

#### Help With Career Inventories/College Applications/Financial Aid

No activities relating to career inventories, college applications, or financial aid applications were reported in quarter 1.



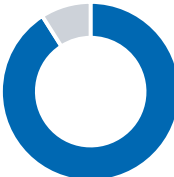



## Project Achievements in Q1

156*	106*	5	3	2	3
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\*Data from Exhibit 1. Number of AI and Number (Percent) NYCP Students, 2023-24 School Year

## College Visit Survey Results

### Participant Perceptions of the College Visits

	Truckee Meadows Community College	Western Nevada College - Fallon
Want to Graduate from high school even more than before.	 <p>■ Agree ■ Disagree</p>	 <p>■ Agree ■ Disagree</p>
Increase my <i>motivation</i> to attend college or trade school.	 <p>■ Agree ■ Disagree</p>	 <p>■ Agree ■ Disagree</p>
Increase my <i>readiness</i> to attend college or trade school.	 <p>■ Agree ■ Disagree</p>	 <p>■ Agree ■ Disagree</p>

## Project Challenges in Q1

- The College and Career Coaches' budgets are still on hold, resulting in an inability to plan or carry out activities. But they are still providing student support in schools.
- WRPT is awaiting grant approval.
- NDE is currently working with the WRPT to finish up the Year 1 budget and get their Year 2 budgets approved.
- NDE is currently working with the Humboldt County School District to get the carryover funds moved into their Year 2 budgets.

## Recommendations

A number of recommendations were put forth for the NYCP project staff based on the findings contained in the report. These included:

- Ensure that all students have an academic learning plan and that both students and parents review them at least once a year;
- Give students more opportunities to learn from, integrate, and share information received from college visits and other experiences;
- Arrange meetings with principals in Yerington, Hawthorne, and Schurz to discuss their roles and responsibilities;
- Hold trainings for teachers on the NYCP;
- Provide tours and additional information on trade/technical schools;
- Create regular channels of communication with parents; and
- Host more tours and activities related to teacher education programs.

The contents of this report were developed under a grant from the Department of Education. However, those contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal government.

## APPENDIX A. PARTICIPANT PERCEPTIONS OF THE TRUCKEE MEADOWS COMMUNITY COLLEGE VISIT

Item	Respondents	% Strongly Agree	% Agree	% Disagree	% Strongly Disagree
Visiting the College/Trade School helped me to learn...					
a) How to get ready for college or trade school.	11	27	64	0	9
b) About the college or trade school application process.	11	27	36	27	9
a. How to apply for financial aid.	11	27	36	27	9
b. What college majors and areas of training there are.	11	45	45	0	9
c. How to find out about which college majors interest me.	11	55	36	0	9
d. Where to find help with college classes if I ever need it.	11	55	36	0	9
e. About clubs and activities for college students.	11	55	36	0	9
f. About programs, clubs, and activities specifically for Native college students.	11	36	55	9	0
g. About what to expect from going to college or trade school.	11	36	64	0	0
Visiting the College/Trade School helped me to ...					
a. Want to graduate from high school even more than before.	11	36	64	0	0
b. Increase my <i>motivation</i> to attend college or trade school.	11	45	45	9	0
c. Increase my <i>readiness</i> to attend college or trade school.	11	55	45	0	0

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.



## APPENDIX B. PARTICIPANT PERCEPTIONS OF THE WNC-FALLON VISIT

a. How to get ready for college or trade school.	12	25	75	0	0
b. About the college or trade school application process.	12	25	75	0	0
c. How to apply for financial aid.	12	17	67	8	8
d. What college majors and areas of training there are.	12	17	83	0	0
e. How to find out about which college majors interest me.	12	8	83	8	0
f. Where to find help with college classes if I ever need it.	12	33	67	0	0
g. About clubs and activities for college students.	12	8	75	17	0
h. About programs, clubs, and activities specifically for Native college students.	12	25	67	8	0
i. About what to expect from going to college or trade school.	12	25	67	8	0
a. Want to graduate from high school even more than before.	12	17	75	8	0
b. Increase my <i>motivation</i> to attend college or trade school.	12	33	67	0	0
c. Increase my <i>readiness</i> to attend college or trade school.	12	25	75	0	0

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.



## APPENDIX C. ACTIVITIES/SUPPORTS REFERENCED IN THIS REPORT

▶ Trauma-Informed Care/Practices
▶ Academic Learning Plans
▶ Boys and Girls Club Re-registration Night
▶ Parent Night
▶ Youth Bash Culture Night
▶ End-of-Year Academic Celebration
▶ Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC) - College Tour
▶ Western Nevada College (WNC) - College Tour
▶ Mylo Smith, Motivational Speaker