

Chippewa Hills  
Indian Education

3226 Arthur Rd.  
Remus, Michigan 49340  
Phone: 989-967-2100  
Fax: 989-967-2109



Academic Success and  
Cultural Understanding

Mrs. Michelle Newman, Coordinator  
Mrs. Michelle Gabalis, HS Tutor  
Mrs. Michelle Hepinstall, IS Tutor  
Mrs. Mary Fate, IS Tutor

September 9, 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The 2016-17 school year has begun and along with it our Indian Education Program. My name is Michelle Newman and I am the Indian Education Program Coordinator. Along with the other staff of Indian Education, Michelle, Michelle and Mary, we welcome you back to a great school year! We will give our best effort every day to positively impact your child academically as they grow at Chippewa Hills. We have set some meeting dates and need to clarify some expectations so that students can maximize their opportunities within our grant program.

We are continuing to modify our program to concentrate on maximizing academic support and success. This year a portion of the grant lends flexibility to technology. Students will become acclimated to Chromebooks and Google and be able to utilize it effectively for school purposes. Chromebooks will be provided this year for grades 9-12 to use throughout the school day. It is our hope that we will be able to extend this into the lower grades as grant monies allow. When students graduate and verify acceptance and commitment to a post-secondary institution, the Chromebook will become theirs to keep!

In addition to our academic supports and programming, we offer a couple of other opportunities for our students to experience some cultural growth. Maintaining and supporting the heritage of the Native American culture is an integral part of the program. Our College Awareness Day is about to occur for students grades 9-12 this fall. This event, in conjunction with CMU, hopefully will highlight opportunities that they have beyond high school. Our purpose is to have our students better understand the academic base they will need to succeed in that setting and how this educational opportunity is attainable. Our second offering is to attend the spring Central Michigan University's Pow Wow in March 2017. Again, transportation, admission and applicable meals are provided for those wishing to participate.

We have some annual meeting dates (provided at bottom of letter) that we hope you will be able to attend. We have not had good participation lately at these meetings, but your input is important to the grant process. At these meetings we will discuss our expectations and the opportunities that can be afforded our students through the Indian Education Grant. We will also discuss the future of the program and what we may need to alter to better meet the needs of our students. Your input is valuable so please try to make an effort to attend.

At each meeting, there will be an activity to bring some culture or spirit into the event. We will honor the format of last year and a dessert will be provided. Also, this is a family event, so your

immediate family (parents and children) are able to be with you for a sweet night out. We are asking you to let us know if you will be attending the meeting so that we have enough dessert for all those present (see form at bottom). If you are not able to attend we are asking that you complete the attached survey to provide us with your input. In an effort to get the required participation necessary, you must attend the meeting and/or complete the survey for your child to receive the program offering at the end of the school year. Your child's participation with the academic support is not impacted by this requirement.

The goal of the Indian Education Program is to encourage and assist our students to become successful learners so that their future may be brighter while providing them opportunities to learn about their heritage. Our combined efforts to meet these two needs, academic success and cultural understanding, will ensure the productivity of our Native American students.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Michelle Newman  
Principal/Indian Education Coordinator

**Important Dates to Remember:**

September 21, 2016	9:45 AM	HS circle drive	CMU College Visit (leave @ 9:00)
December 7, 2016	6:00 PM	HS cafeteria	Informational meeting with dessert
February 22, 2017	6:00 PM	HS cafeteria	Informational meeting with dessert
March, 2017	TBD	HS circle drive	CMU Pow Wow
May 24, 2017	6:00 PM	HS cafeteria	Informational meeting with dessert

---

## **CHSD Indian Education Program**

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

I will be attending the following meetings:

\_\_\_\_\_ 09/21/16      \_\_\_\_\_ # attending      \_\_\_\_\_ 2/22/17      \_\_\_\_\_ # attending  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 12/7/16      \_\_\_\_\_ # attending      \_\_\_\_\_ 5/24/17      \_\_\_\_\_ # attending

Parent Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_