

## WISDOM FROM THE FOUR DIRECTIONS

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### Save the Date!

**April 18 – 19**  
**CNE Spring**  
**Conference**  
**Albuquerque, NM**

### CNE MONTHLY CONFERENCE CALL

**Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, 9:00AM, PST**

Please note that the Center for Native Education will host monthly information-sharing conference calls between Willie Wolf, CNE Director, & the Early Colleges in our network. **All site coordinators are urged to participate in the monthly conference calls.**

To join the dialogue, call: **1-866-453-5550**, and enter **PIN #3547985** when prompted. The goal of these monthly phone meetings is to make the Center for Native Education a more cohesive unit, where we all work – and learn – together. Please make it a priority to take part in these discussions.

### [For Students at Risk, Early College Proves a Draw](#)

On February 8, the *New York Times* ran a piece in the Education Section, titled [“For Students at Risk, Early College Proves a Draw”](#). It focuses mostly on early-college high schools on the East Coast, but the programs are the same as ours, including the funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

The article highlights the positive aspects of early colleges and shows how they are gaining popularity across the country, as more students successfully participate in the programs. They not only benefit the students who attend them, but everyone involved in the process. The full article can be accessed [here](#).

### Jobs for the Future Site Visits Continue

As part of CNE’s grant funding, Jobs For the Future (JFF) has been collecting data from all our school sites. JFF sent representative **Joy Coates** to visit our sites and answer all questions you may have. There has been an overwhelmingly positive response to the visits, and Joy is continuing her site visits with Dawn and Willie through the next few months.

Joy is happy to answer any questions outside of the pre-arranged visit times. She can be reached via e-mail at [jcoates@jff.org](mailto:jcoates@jff.org), or on the phone, (617)728-4446, ext 202.

### UPCOMING GRANT AND SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

#### Scholarships for Students:

- [HP Corporate Scholarships Available for Native American Students](#)
- [Young Native Writers Essay Contest](#)

#### Grants for Schools and Institutions:

- [Teaching American History](#)
- [Professional Development Grants](#)
- [Improving Literacy Through School Libraries](#)

### [Pathways Conference](#)

February 17 – 18  
Doubletree SeaTac Hotel

Check us out on the Web!

[www.CenterForNativeEd.org](http://www.CenterForNativeEd.org)



### What Are Schools Doing Right?

Here are a few articles about what's happening at other schools in the CNE program. They may provide you with some inspiration for your own Early College programs.

If you have a success story to share, please send it to [sjanecek@antioch.edu](mailto:sjanecek@antioch.edu) and we will add it to next month's newsletter.

#### HIGHLIGHT ON SCHOOLS - Klamath River Early College of the Redwoods:

From KRECR's monthly update in January:

##### FIELD TRIPS ARE AN IMPORTANT WAY WE LEARN

"Some of the classes at KRECR were invited to attend a private tour of the Morris Graves Museum in Eureka on October 23rd. Junque Art was an open exhibit and one of the most remarkable pieces was made by a Yurok Tribal member. After the museum, students enjoyed pizza donated by Arcata Pizza and Deli. Later the same day students journeyed to Sumeg Village where fellow students Sammy and Amber Gensaw gave a cultural tour. This trip was coordinated in part by HSU student volunteers. As a part of a "Maps Matter" unit, the Yurok History, Society and Geography class traveled to the Yurok Tribe's GIS program located in Weitchpec, CA. There they had an in-depth view into why maps are important to our local area and what role GIS plays in the greater community. On the same day, the students visited the Yurok Tribe's Fisheries Division and spoke with Mike Belachek and Barry McCovey. They informed us about their current research and projects and encouraged the youth to pursue education in order to grow the fisheries department.

It is said that the methodology of science can only be learned through action: Asking questions about nature, creating methods for answering those questions, implementation of methodology, evaluation of answers, and communication of findings with others. The Klamath River Bioregion class has been out in the field several days so far this year to investigate ecosystems. They visited Redwood National Park where they hiked the restored Ah Pah trail and the James Irvine Trail; they took their longest hike yet this year - a round trip of over four miles - down to the beach on the Ossagon trail where they found an elk carcass; and they got a tour of the Lost Man Creek restoration project from Park scientists. Their most recent trip was to explore the tide pools around False Klamath Cove where they found and identified "Mopalia mucosa", a kind of Mollusk, limpets, Aggregating anemones, and "Pachygrapsus crassipes", which is a striped shore crab"

#### Taholah School Makes Math Accessible

Taholah Middle School has started incorporating the teaching methods from the [Success For All](#) Foundation, with great success. The school has seen significant increases in their 6<sup>th</sup> grade ITBS test scores, and has also seen an increase in attendance and morale. A short write-up on the program at [Taholah Middle School is found here](#), or see the following link for more information on the [Success For All Foundation](#).

#### Giving New Life to Her Native Language, Ojibwe

Dr. Dorene Wiese from Chicago's Black Hawk Academy was recently interviewed for the Chicago Tribune in an article published January 11, 2009. Click [here](#) to read the entire piece.

From the article:

*"... Wiese... has been working for the last three decades to revive the (Ojibwe) language. Her research is in oral history, and she has studied the ways in which learning is passed down through generations.*

*Revival is necessary, she believes, because for so many years, native languages withered for various reasons. Among them is that generations of Native American parents stopped speaking in their native tongues, believing their children needed a mastery of English to succeed economically..."*

#### Sounds of Oregon: Keeping the sacred gift of Native language alive

Follow the link to the main feature page, "Sounds of Oregon". The article focuses on the importance of teaching and keeping Native languages alive, especially since many Native languages are not written and have been actively exterminated through enculturation. The feature on Umatilla is under the 5<sup>th</sup> tab, "Native Languages", found [here](#).

From the article:

*"Roughly half the world's 6,000 to 7,000 languages are on a path to extinction by the end of this century, linguists say... Today, because of tribal movement, loss of population and cultural suppression, the number is about a dozen... When a language is lost, centuries of human thinking may disappear."*

*Certain things catch your eye,  
But pursue only those that capture your heart.  
~Indian Elder~*