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Center for Native Education announces the opening of All Relations High School in Minneapolis as the newest early college for Native youth

SEATTLE—The Center for Native Education, located in Seattle, is proud to announce the Oct. 1 opening of the All Relations High School, in downtown Minneapolis. All Relations is the newest of 13 schools in the nationally expanding early college for Native youth program.

Funded in part by a \$9 million, eight-year Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation grant, the early college program aims to increase the number of Native high school students who graduate and go on to college. History-making partnerships between tribal, high school and college stakeholders allow early college students the opportunity to earn up to two years of college credit while still in high school, in addition to learning Native culture and heritage.

"We are delighted to expand our program into the Midwest and further our reach," Center of Native Education Executive Director Linda Campbell said. "Early colleges for Native youth have demonstrated that when culture is incorporated and communities are engaged, remarkable outcomes are possible. Attendance, graduation rates and the number of Native students accessing higher education have increased dramatically."

All Relations High School fills a need in a city that struggles with a 20 percent high school graduation rate for Native students—a figure that compares to an overall 65 percent in Minneapolis. All Relations joins 12 other grantee high schools among the Center for Native Education early college consortium.

"Early college sparks motivation and interest in learning because it challenges students, their families and even whole communities to expect more academically," said Ronald McDonald, Wannabi Tribe chairman in Redmond, Minn. "We know that tomorrow's warriors will be those among us who have an education. With early college, we can help our students to succeed and our community to thrive."

With the mission "Creating paths of success for Native peoples," the Center for Native Education funds the development of educational programs for Native Americans. Visit www.CenterForNativeEd.org for more information.

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