

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Penaho (hello)! My name is Lauren Nabahe. I am Paiute-Shoshone, Diné, and Mono. I am the new Eastside Native American Education Program Manager. I am contacting you because I want to inform you of an opportunity for your student(s). As part of a collaboration between **WWNAEC** (Western Washington Native American Education Consortium) and ENAEP, we invite your student(s) to participate this school year **2023-2024** in the **Native American Youth Leadership Academy (NAYLA)**. This wonderful opportunity brings together 8-12th grade Native American Youth from across Western Washington to take part in activities that support and promote positive academic outcomes, meaningful leadership development and cultural identity. Students will come together, connect, build positive relations with other Native American students/adults, participate in a variety of culturally responsive leadership development, and engage in personal as well as academic activities that promote continual constructive progression. NAYLA events are hosted at the Puyallup Tribal Youth Center. Breakfast, Lunch as well as snacks for the way home are provided. Students will be excused from school for every NAYLA event they participate in.

The first NAYLA event for the 2023-2024 school year will be **October 12, 2023 from 9:30- 2:00 PM**. The other event dates are as follows: **Dec 7, 2023, Feb 1, 2024 and April 19, 2024 during the same time.**

There typically has also be an overnight NAYLA youth conference trip that has previously been at the end of March but the date and other details are TBD.

Transportation to and from each NAYLA session **can be provided** by the ENAEP program. Parent volunteers welcome and may be utilized to support transportation.

Once we have our final list of applicants for the 2023-2024 school year, we will contact you via email by **Tuesday September 26th**.

Applications are due by Friday, September 22nd at 3:30 PM. Please send completed applications to me.

We are so excited for your student(s) to join us! If you have any questions and/or concerns, please reach out to me (contact listed below).

aesheN (Thank you!)

Lauren Nabahe -- *Paiute-Shoshone, Navajo and Mono*

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Serving Native Students in BSD, LWSD & NSD

