



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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2016 IDAHO INDIAN EDUCATION SUMMIT TO FOCUS ON CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE TEACHING

(BOISE) – The 2016 Idaho Indian Education Summit is scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, June 13th - 14th at the Red Lion Downtowner in Boise. Themed *Culturally Responsive Teaching: Practice and Purpose – More than a Lesson Plan*, the Summit will focus on identifying instructional strategies for use in the classroom to promote equitable learning practices for American Indian students.

The Tribal Juvenile Justice Council is sponsoring a pre-summit forum scheduled for June 12th in which 50 Idaho Indian students will discuss the opportunities and programs that best assist them and peers to succeed academically and transition to college and careers.

The Summit will officially open Monday, June 13th with a welcome from Chairman Bob Sobotta, and opening ceremonies will be performed by the Nez Perce Tribe. Following the opening ceremonies, Laura Laumatia and Mark Soloman from the University of Idaho will provide a keynote speech entitled, *From 1492 to your Classroom: How Federal Indian Policy Impacts your Students and their Education*.

Following the keynote, the State Board of Education staff will conduct several breakout workshops on the topic of transitioning to post-secondary education, including overviews of the Next Steps website resource, Idaho's Direct Admissions initiative, and financial aid. Additionally, a workshop on the Nez Perce STEP Cultural Standards will be conducted by Joyce McFarland and STEP staff.

Included in Monday's events is a reception from 5 PM – 7 PM (MDT), the highlight of which will be remarks from William Mendoza, Executive Director of the White House Initiative on American Indian/Alaska Native Education and a preview of the trailer for *Journey to Opportunity*, a documentary focusing on American Indian students in Idaho.

On June 14th, the five tribes of Idaho will provide Tribal History Presentations, followed by an ending summit keynote address from Dr. D'Lisa Pinkham, principal of Lapwai Middle/High School.

The Idaho Indian Education Summit is an annual event hosted by the Idaho Indian Education Committee sponsored by the College of Southern Idaho, Idaho State University, Boise State University, Lewis-Clark State College, the University of Idaho, Idaho National Laboratory, the Coeur d'Alene Tribe, the Nez Perce Tribe, the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, the Idaho State Board of Education and the Idaho State Department of Education.



The State Board of Education's Idaho Indian Education Committee serves as an advisory committee to the State Board of Education and the State Department of Education on educational issues and how they impact opportunity, success, and access for Idaho's American Indian student population.

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For a more detailed Idaho Indian Education Summit agenda, please visit
<http://www.sde.idaho.gov/indian-ed/summit.html>.

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