

# United States Department of the Interior



## BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION

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Newsletter for March from the Principal's Desk:

Dear RRDS Families and our students,

Spring is approaching and learning is in full swing here at the RRDS. As you may know, this is a time of year that students make the most academic learning improvements. Make school a priority. Very soon the weather will change with spring right around the corner, and Spring Break is coming up as well. I know the teachers are looking forward to it as much as the students. It can be challenging to keep our children focused on learning-during distance learning (Phase I). What can you do to make school a top priority for your child? Keep these ideas in mind:

- Make attendance your number one priority. Let your child know that unless they are sick, they must attend school (and be on time even if it's sitting at the kitchen table.) Make an effort to schedule non-school appointment after school hours.
- Show you care. Talk to your student – ask them what they are learning about. Check to see if they are using academic language/vocabulary when they talk.
- Remain positive. Try to set a positive example for your child, even when your own day has been challenging. If you show a positive attitude about your work, your child may feel better about their own.

Thank you for meeting with your child's teacher during Parent-Teacher Conferences (*March 25 & 26*). Educators are often asked one important question, "What do you think I can do at home to help my child be more successful at school?" My answer is very simple, Read with your child every day. Let them see you read. Before, during, and after the reading, encourage your child, begin a discussion about the story, ask questions, visualize the story, offer information, share personal thoughts, and connect the story to real-life situations. Make the time an enjoyable experience and let your child see that reading is fun. Celebrate this special time together!

We will begin WIDA assessment in March for the SY 2020-2021. Not all children will be given this assessment. This assessment covers: Reading, Speaking, & Writing for English Language Learners (ELL), and will take place March 02 – 12. During the week that your child is testing, make certain that your son/daughter rests properly each night, arrives for school on time, and is not distracted at home. No personal devices may be used during the assessment. Our school bus drivers will pick up and drop off your child each day they are scheduled for testing. You will receive a call from the front office as to time, and a short health survey.

This month I would like to focus on the multiple ways our parents, caregivers, and families get involved in school and how important that is. I am asking my staff to provide an opportunity for parents and students to learn using the new laptops. I would like the staff to put together tutorials and record lessons that can be viewed by students as needed for review.

Finally, know that you do not have to wait for a parent/teacher conferences to call if you have questions, concerns, or needs. We are here to serve your children and your families. Please contact your child's teacher, the office staff, or me if you want to set up a meeting to discuss any issues that arise. As always, THANK YOU for being our partners in this important work helping your child enjoy learning and prepare for a bright future!

With warmest regards,

**Mission Statement:** We will provide a safe student centered learning community. We will produce continuous learners through a rigorous academic curriculum intergraded with Dine' Cultural Standards

**Vision Statement:** We are preparing & producing future leaders