

Wa:k Newsletter



SAN XAVIER DISTRICT
Ge'e S-he:pjig Masad
Big Cold Moon



Wa:k Art Treasures

Eight Artist Paid Out within the first week of Grand Opening!

Greetings Wa:k Community,

From the Wa:k Art Treasures shop, we are proud of our team, Sales Manager Teresa Castillo, Sales Associates Josephine Winap, and Miss Tohono O'odham Nation's First Attendant A'Dream Lake. We also want to recognize the San Xavier District leadership Chairman Austin Nunez, Vice Chairwoman Celestine Pablo, and Director of Operations Sandra Alvarez; most importantly, we would like to thank the Wa:k Community! The shop's success results from team effort, so many names are left out because it would probably take up an entire page to shout out all the people who have assisted us in this endeavor.

The grand opening was a success as people from all over the Nation and the world were in attendance. Since the grand opening, our most recent visitors, during the week of November 15, 2024, have been from Canada, Australia, New York, Pennsylvania, and California, just to name a few. This month, we are unlocking some new features that will revolutionize our marketing and reach! It is too early to mention, although we want you to know that the Wa:k Art Treasures is evolving and building traction in the Native American Arts and Crafts platform. We invite everyone to spread the word as we continuously are accepting inventory.

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REPORTS & HIGHLIGHTS

Chairman Nunez /Vice Chairwoman Pablo

NOVEMBER 2024	
<p>11/1/24-Provided community overview presentation to an interfaith group courtesy of Citizens Diplomacy Alliance (Pat Watson). -Toured Pima County Wastewater Reclamation Dept’s effluent in-stream recharge program which has caused increased ecological activity over 12 years; They approached the District to inquire about interest in diverting wastewater flow to be treated at a new facility near Pima Mine Road, and if we are open to surface flows of treated effluent into the Santa Cruz River.</p>	<p>11/5/24-Met with Housing Department staff on new HIAP applications for review and approval. -Finalized the Women & Water Conference program for 11/13 & 14. -Chaired SXD council meeting.</p>
<p>11/6/24 Staff met to plan the annual Community Christmas Party for 12/13 & the SXD Staff Christmas Party on 12/17 along with Toys for Tots.</p>	<p>11/7/24-Met with Roads Crew to update on projects such as pothole repairs, pipe repairs, manage water flows/drainages, policies, safety to avoid higher traffic times, and signage needs. -Virtual meeting on Native American spirituality matters.</p>
<p>11/8/24 Day 2 -Virtual meeting on Native American spirituality matters.</p>	<p>11/9/24 Attended the Grand Opening of the SXD Wa:k Treasurers Consignment Shop at the Plaza. Provided Welcome & Ribbon Cutting.</p>
<p>11/12/24-Held a Land Assignment Committee meeting to review the Land Assignment Policy & Flowcharts and to make revisions. -Attended wake for F. Martinez III. -Met with Watershed Management Group. -Offered prayers & remarks at Tucson’s Birthplace Open Space Coalition on the proposed Wildlife Refuge Project at base of A Mountain.</p>	<p>11/13/24-Attended Amerind Training on Workers Compensation. -Day 1 of Women & Water Convening Conference in the San Xavier Community Building: Welcome & Land Acknowledgement, Overview, Activity to meet one another and an afternoon site visit to the Wa:k Hikdan for presentations including Natural Resources Dept. staff.</p>
<p>11/14/24 Day 2 of the Water & Women Convening Conference: 2026 & Beyond-Opportunities for Tribal Collaboration & Community Building, Storytelling, Dealing with Burnout, Knowledge Exchange Tables.</p>	<p>11/17/24 Attended funeral for J. Flores Miles-Gil. 11/18/24 Attended wake/funeral services for G. Encinas.</p>
<p>11/19/24-Attended O’odham Ni’oki Ki Grand Opening at TOCC. -SXD Council meeting rescheduled due to funerals.</p>	<p>11/20/24 Attended District Chairs meeting hosted by Ge Wo’o Ceksan. -Attended wake/funeral for A. Castillo.</p>
<p>11/21/24-Attended Managers’ meeting. -Attended the Santa Cruz River Refuge Coalition signing ceremony at Canoa Ranch establishing the Santa Cruz River Wildlife Partnership. -Chaired Community Meeting.</p>	<p>11/22/24 Invited to the National Apprenticeship Week Panel Discussion & Recognition Event at TOCC West Campus.</p>
<p>11/26/24-Met again to finalize Community & Staff Christmas parties 12/13 & 12/17 -Chaired SXD Council meeting.</p>	<p>11/28 & 29 SX District Closed for Thanksgiving Holidays.</p>

Natural Resources Department

Director- David Tenario

Greetings Wa:k Community! We hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving holiday with your loved ones. At this time, we are pleased to announce our new NRD Administrative Assistant, Ms. Eugenia P. Tashquinth. Eugenia is from the Sells Community and resides in Tucson. Her mother is Beatrice Tashquinth (Sells) and her father is the late Eugene P. Tashquinth Sr. (Sif Oidak). Prior to working at the District, Eugenia worked at the Desert Diamond Casino, and with the Native Nations Institute at the University of Arizona. Eugenia comes to the NRD with a background in agriculture and animal sciences. She has extensive experience in office and administration support and looks forward to assisting the community and the District.

The NRD staff have been involved with the following meetings or activities: 2 staff visited the Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation facility and the treated discharge area off Ina Road. The Natural Resources Specialist assisted Adrian Quijada & George Goode with the coordination of the Horseshoeing Training held at the SX Co-op. 2 staff assisted with and attended the 2nd Annual Women & Water – Planet Women Conference, we continued with our update meetings with Asarco & UKLA, and attended the annual SX Cooperative Association Allottee Meeting, staff discussed the SXD Adopt-A-Road Program with Administration, and attended the Universal Access to Clean Water for Tribal Communities webinar.

Wa:k Hikdan:

We had a couple of groups visit the Hikdan during this time of year. One group was the Southwest Inter-Tribal Knowledge Exchange group and the other was from Westminster University with the assistance of Dr. Jacelle Ramon-Sauberan. Both groups enjoyed seeing the Hikdan and complimented the Groundskeepers for the hard work they do and to the District for establishing the riparian areas for the community and future generations.

The Groundskeepers also completed the Advanced Smartscape: Plant Material course offered by the UA Pima County Cooperative Extension. This course helped the Groundskeepers further their understanding of plant morphology, which is useful in identifying plants in the landscape, and gain an understanding of specific plant species use. Good job everyone!

Recently, the Groundskeepers were maintaining the grounds at the Hikdan and came across an exploded firework. Although no damages were reported we would like to remind everyone that the discharge of any explosive devices is strictly prohibited at the Hikdan.

If you have any questions for any of the staff, please call us: David Tenario (520) 573-4056, Geena Johnson (520) 573-4055, Morgan Parsons (520) 573-4057, or Eugenia Tashquinth (520) 573-4053.



The Covid Office will be **Closed December 20th–December 27th.**

Please call **SXD Front Desk** during this time.

THE OFFICE WILL REOPEN MONDAY, DECEMBER 30TH.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



As announced, October 15, 2024, we have exhausted ARPA funds for Rent/Mortgage Assistance and Utility Assistance. This will conclude the assistance program under the ARPA Grant.

COVID NEWS

Covid cases are rising at rapid rates across the country! The CDC still recommends keeping your covid vaccination up to date. According to the CDC vaccination reduces risk to serious complications by 50%. 2023-present, 95% of covid hospitalizations were not up to date on their covid vaccine.

DIAPER & MENSTRUAL PRODUCT MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION

December 9–19, 2024

Monday–Friday

Availability varies! Limit per month!
For (children of) SXD members

For a Diaper Emergency outside of the giveaway dates please call!

COVID OFFICE PROVIDES...

- Covid Tests
- Covid Box (*if you test positive*) includes Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and cleaning supplies for your household.
- PPE for community events, funerals, and anniversaries, when requested.

For any questions, reach out to the Covid Office:
520-573-4010 or covid@waknet.org

HIGHER LEARNING AWAITS YOU



SCAN ME

Register Now
K-3
2025-2026



San Xavier Mission School
1980 W. San Xavier Rd., Tucson, AZ 85746
(520) 294-0628

St. Francis Xavier Feast Days

December 2 & 3, 2024
Reuben Smith's Feast Committee

MONDAY, December 2, 2024

Feeding @ NOON

Rosary by: Gabriel Encinas Group 1-4 pm

Entertainment: T.O. Mumsigo 1-5 pm

PROCESSION @ 7 pm

Entertainment: Cruz Band 8 pm - 12 am

TUESDAY, December 3, 2024

MASS @ 10 am San Xavier Mission Church

Feeding @ NOON

Entertainment: T.O. Mumsigo 1-5 pm

PROCESSION @ 7 pm

Entertainment: Mumsigo 8pm - 12 am

With no hope, we
nor seeking
your prayers.

The committee requests that you stay home if you are not feeling well or are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. Thank you.
PLEASE RESPECT THE OCCASION

SWAP MEET
DECEMBER 15, 2024
8AM - 2PM

Join us outdoors at the
San Xavier Mission | 1950 W San Xavier Road

VENDOR FEE \$10/SPOT, SPACE LIMITED
CALL TO RESERVE A SPOT: (520)573-4000

**HOUSEHOLD ITEMS, ARTS/CRAFTS, JEWELRY,
BAKED GOODS, AND MORE!**

\$2 each or
3 for \$5

**50/50
RAFFLE**

Drawing at 1:30 p.m.

SPONSORED BY THE SXD HEALTH AND WELLNESS COMMITTEE

RED **Green Corn**

HOLIDAY TAMALES ORDERS
\$24/Doz
Yeast Bread/\$10 and Tortillas/\$12

Contact:
Karlette @ 784-3475
Wynona @ 834-7643
Mae @ 954-0901
Agatha @ 444-5629
Mark @ 235-9758

Christmas Deadline: Dec 20th

WA:k CEKSAN ROYALTY

Acknowledgement to Out-Going *Wa:k Ceksan 23-24 Royalty & Families*

I want to acknowledge our outgoing 2023-24 Wa:k Ceksan Royalty for their outstanding representation of our Wa:k Community; you continued to represent us well at all the events you attended throughout your reign. It gives me pride we were able to provide you with insight into what you can accomplish during your reign; in listening to your speeches, you have gained confidence within yourselves, and you can accomplish the goals you have. Thank you again for a great year. Most importantly, to the parents, grandparents, guardians, and aunts, you have all been there from the start for your daughter, granddaughter, goddaughter, and niece; without your support, they would not have accomplished their goals for what they did for the community. Thank you for being there for the girls, and also to the Wa:k Community for supporting them through their fundraisers with your generous purchasing and donations. Good Luck, and I wish you the best and much-deserved rest where you represented the community by giving up your weekends, family events, and most of all, your time.

Respectfully Submitted,

Agatha F. Miguel

Coordinator -Wa:k Ceksan Royalty

Introducing our new Wa:k Ceksan Royalty 24-25

Congratulations to our new 2024-25 Wa:k Ceksan Royalty. Thank you all for stepping up and sharing your talents, most notably in representing our community. We will be looking forward to your newsletter reports. We wish you all many Blessing on your travels and represent us well.

Miss Wa:k Ceksan

Arianna Moreno

Modern Award

Parents: Christopher Moreno & Amy Norris ba:d

1st Attendant

Reyna Pablo

Best Traditional & Modern Award

Parent: Gennalee Pablo

Jr. Miss Wa:k Ceksan

Danaliah Miguel

Best Traditonal & Modern Award

Parents: Dereck Miguel & Denise Rios



Lil' Miss Wa:k Ceksan

Maylina Lawson

Parents: Jonathan Lawson & Solina Marcus

1st Attendant

Jaylina Lawson

Best Traditional

Parents: Jonathan Lawson & Solina Marcus

2nd Attendant

Marianna Valles

Parents: Jose Valles & Mariajuanna Celaya



Ske:g Tas Wa:k Community!

Greetings from Annalicia Antone, your former Miss Wa:k Ceksan 2023-2024. I hope all is well with everyone. As we wrapped up our 2023-2024 reign representing every one of you, here are a few more events we got to experience these past few months.

07/28/24- we had our last recruitment workshop for girls interested in running royalty.

08/03/24- I attended the Gathering of Native American Veterans. I was asked to give the benediction, and it was nice to be there to celebrate and give appreciation to all our Native American Veterans and their sacrifice for our country.

08/07/24- we attended the El Presidio event celebrating Tucson's birthday. It was nice to see all that they had to offer.

08/22/24- we attended the Miss White Mountain Apache Tribe pageant in Whiteriver, AZ. Congratulations to the newly crowned Miss WMAT, and best wishes to the outgoing queen on her future endeavors.

08/24/24- we attended the grand re-opening of the San Xavier Mission School. Seeing our community coming together to celebrate this moment was nice.

08/31/24- we participated in the White Mountain Apache Tribe's Parade in Whiteriver, AZ. We enjoyed our time and appreciated the warm welcomes of their community along the parade route.

09/21/24- we had our farewell celebration. Thank you to everyone who came out to celebrate with us and who have continued to support us throughout our reign!

09/22/24- we were invited to the Miss Indian Arizona Farewell dinner in Whiteriver, AZ. We are very grateful for the friendship we have built with the 2023-2024 Miss Indian Arizona Laney Lupe. She has done an amazing job representing all of the 22 tribes of Arizona well. Best wishes and good luck with what the future brings for her!

09/27-09/28/2024- we attended the Zuni Pageant and parade in Zuni, NM. We were honored to be invited to share our culture with them. I really enjoyed this event, learning about their culture and all the kind people. Congratulations to the newly crowned Zuni Royalty court, and best of wishes to the outgoing 2023-2024 court, they all did a fantastic job representing their tribe well!

10/05/24- we attended the Children's Pageant in Phoenix. It was so awesome to see all the children of different tribes here in Arizona have the courage to share their cultures. They all did a fantastic job!

10/12/24- in the morning we participated in the Native American Connections parade in Phoenix. It was a long route and hot, but we made it through. Then, in the evening, we attended the 63rd Miss Indian Arizona Pageant in Chandler, AZ. This was my first time attending. I enjoyed watching all the contestants compete for the title and honoring the 1st Miss Indian Arizona, Veronica Homer, of the Colorado River Indian Tribes. Congratulations to the newly crowned court!

Within these last few months of our reign, we had some fundraisers, which helped us with all our travels for the year. I want to thank everyone for their support; we appreciate it all!

07/21/24- we had a Breakfast Burrito Sale at the Dance Hall

08/28/2024- we had a Carne Asada Plate Sale and raffle fundraiser

09/07/2024 we had a Food Sale at the Dance Hall

So as you can see within the last few months of our reign, we were pretty busy with many events and a few fundraisers. Throughout the year of carrying the title of Miss Wa:k Ceksan, I was fortunate to have gained so much knowledge and amazing friendships. I am thankful I was able to travel and for all the supportive welcoming people that this journey has brought me, especially my sash sisters. This experience helped me gain leadership skills and become more involved as a young O'odham woman. It has taught me a lot about myself, as well as the fascination and eagerness to learn more about other cultures and, most importantly, being proud of where I come from. The networking has helped me connect with many other tribal royalty, tribal leaders, veterans, and a government leader. Together, we have traveled to places like the Gathering of Nations, 1 of 23 tribes in New Mexico, and 7 of 22 tribes in Arizona, all within our reign.

Being the biggest royalty at these events has given me so much pride and honor to represent this community and our families everywhere we went. We continue to represent the district well. Thank you to all the parents, guardians, sponsors, and the community for all the support! I wish the 2024-2025 Wa:k Ceksan Royalty the best in their reign. I encourage them to do their best, smile, and have fun! At times it does seem like a lot, but know that you are doing a good and positive thing and representing yourself, your family, and your community!!

Thank you and take care,

Annalicia Antone, Miss Wa:k Ceksan 2023-2024

WA:k CEKSAN ROYALTY

S-ke:g hudnig wesij am wui, a'ñi añ ap ce:gig Lily Dreama Francisco, this past year has been a great adventurous year, I have learned many things about being Wa:k O'odham, from attending ceremonies, to learning different dances, and meeting new people from the community, TO Nation and other tribes. My greatest achievement this past year is that I am very grateful to see my crown and sash not as a prize but an opportunity to serve and to grow into the best version of myself. It has truly been an honor to travel all over Arizona and attend different local events. I am grateful for this opportunity I was entrusted with, for the countless friendships I have made along the way. This year was not easy in many ways and through strength from our creator am I truly blessed and grateful for this humble experience. I will most definitely miss being your Lil Miss Wa:k Ceksañ 2023/2024 it has been a great pleasure. A heart felt Thank you to the Wa:k Hemajkam for the amazing love and support this past year. Special thank you to my grandparents, ñ-Hu'li- Loretta Pablo, ñ-wosk – Virgil Francisco, ck ñ Ka:k – Edena Francisco. I'll miss you so much!!! Last but definitely not least great big thank you to ñ-wepnag Arianna ck Mariah Moreno, Michael ck A'Dream Lake, I love you all. Cemhekiđ



Skeg Ta:ş a:ñi an ab ce:gig Alynah Encinas, I'm the former Jr. Miss Wa:k Ceksan 2023-24; this year was great and fun during my reign.

I've been to so many places and met so many people. The big titleholders I met were Miss Indian Arizona, Laney Lupe, the Miss Indian World, Cassie John, and the Miss Native American University of Arizona, Jasmine Lopez; they were all so lovely and kind to me. This was my very first time running for royalty. I loved everything about it. Laney Lupe was the kindest, most beautiful person; she is one of my role models. I also had a lot of fun at our Farewell Celebration, there were so many of the girls' families, and I got so many gifts; we did our farewell speeches and had a dinner, we had a dance, and it was pretty fun a lot of my family went, and some my friends and some royalty even came it was so much fun.

The next day, we had to be in Hondah, AZ, for the Miss Indian Arizona Laney Lupe Farewell Celebration at the Hondah Casino; it was fun there. There were a couple of speakers, and I loved her speech a lot. I enjoyed myself over there; I will miss everything about this year. I will miss all my sash sisters I met this year, my five sash sisters, and my royalty family. I appreciate your support; I'll return in 2028 to run for Miss Wa:k Ceksañ. Thank you!!



Parade Coordinator: CVC

THELMA HAVIER

We want to thank everyone who participated in the parade; it was a successful one this year with our visitors. We hope to have more participation next year. Congratulations to all the parade winners, we had several winners in each of the categories, which they will receive awards.

MOST COLORFUL	Lil Miss Mt Turnbull
BEST TRADITIONAL	SX Mission School, Wa:k Seniors, Lil Miss Mt. Turnbull
BEST ENTRY	SX Mission School, Wa:k Seniors, Lil Miss Mt. Turnbull
3RD PLACE ROYALTY	Miss Mt. Turnbull & Pascua Yaqui Royalty
2ND PLACE ROYALTY	Miss Wa:k Ceksan & 1st Attendant
1ST PLACE ROYALTY	Lil Miss Mt. Turnbull
3RD PLACE OVERALL	Wa:k Senior Services & Voices of Our Youth
2ND PLACE OVERALL	Lil Miss Mt. Turnbull
1ST PLACE OVERALL	San Xavier Mission School

Thank you everyone again, see you next year



Contact CVC Members

Mae Miguel @ 954-0901
 Agatha Miguel @ 444-5629
 Thelma Havier @ 505-0821
 Brandon Havier @ 409-4316
 CJ Juan @ 272-7560
 Elliott Ortega @ 649-5430
 Alda Antone @ 809-3108
 Madeline Johnson @ 668-5905



December

San Xavier District Events

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2 St. Francis Xavier	3 St. Francis Xavier	4 St. Francis Xavier SXD CLOSED	5	6	7	8
9 5:30 pm Culture & Natural Resources, CR Diaper & Menstrual Product Distribution(12/9-12/19) 5:30-7PM Xmas Caroling Rehearsal; EC	10 6 pm, SXD Council Mtg 5:30 pm, Health & Education, EC	11 6pm, Finance, CR 6:30 pm, Planning & Housing, CR 5:30-7PM Xmas Caroling Rehearsal, EC 11am-1pm & 5:30-7pm	12 5:30-9PM Christmas Caroling, EC 6PM- SXD Community Mtg, C *Tenative	13 4-7pm Community Xmas Party in CB	14 9am-4pm CVC- Xmas Event @ Pa.li:an	15 8-2 Community Swap Meet (SXM) 8 am, Election Voting Outreach @Swapmeet, SXM
16 5:30 pm, Culture & Natural Resources, CR	17 6 pm SXD Council Mtg, C *(Tent) 5:30 pm, Health & Education, EC 12-5 SXD Closed	18 5:30 pm, Election, CR 6 pm, Finance, CR 6:30 pm, Planning & Housing, CR Women's Circle Canceled	19 5:30-9PM Christmas Caroling, EC 6PM- SXD Community Mtg, C *Tenative	20	21	22
23 5:30-9pm Christmas Caroling, EC	24 1-5pm SXD Closed	25 SXD CLOSED CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY	26 SXD CLOSED DAY AFTER CHRISTMAS	27	28	29
30	31 1-5PM SXD Closed	Notes				
		CB= Community Building C= Chambers PWH= People Wellness House EC= Education Center CR= Conference Room				

O'odham Ap'edag Ki/ People Wellness House

The People Wellness House staff would like to invite the Wa:k community to stop by and learn about our services. The PWH has served the Wa:k community for over 21 years. We are here to help and support you. The following are some of the services offered by PWH:

White Bison Support Groups- Bi-monthly on Sundays

Women Support Circle- Wednesdays 11 am and 530 pm

Counseling Services- General mental health, Substance abuse, and other subjects

Men's Sweat Lodge- 1st Friday of the month (weather permitting)

Youth Afterschool Program – Mondays and Tuesdays for K-6th grade

SUSSD- 7th-12th - PWH offers support and help to Native students

PWH hours of operation Monday- Friday, 8 am-5 pm. Please call 520-807-8664 for more information.

Crisis and Warm Line phone numbers:

- **Tribal warm line 1-855-728-8630 (Mon-Friday, 8 am-5 pm)**
- **AZ crisis line 1-844-423-8759 and 1-844-534-4673 (24/7)**
- **AZ Teen lifeline 1-800-248-8336 (3 pm-7 pm)**
- **Crisis lifeline 988 or 1-800-662-4357 (24/7)**
- **AZ Resources 211**
- **Tucson Crisis Response Center 520-622-6000 (24/7)**



Cultural Group Facilitator James Funmaker

Heartfelt greetings to the San Xavier Community and all the readers of the Wak newsletter.

This is James Funmaker from the People Wellness House coming to you. I am praying you are all having a peaceful day! As the children of the community begin their 3rd month of school, we here at the Wellness House continue to provide them with a safe place to process their emotions! We would love to see more involvement from the parents with their children at the Wellness House. The staff here at the Wellness House are very concerned about what is going on with the children in the Wak community! We as adults need to provide a safe environment for our children where they feel their feelings and voices are a priority! We, as Indian people, were never about hurting our children or each other, we must make wellness a priority for the sake of our children's future! We at the Wellness House that's what we do wellbriety! We invite you to come by and visit us and help us continue to make a safer environment for you and your children! THANK YOU!

Case Wellness Manager Genevieve James

The Women’s Circle support group celebrated Halloween at the People Wellness House (PWH). The group meets weekly every Wednesday from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm. Group participants identify that the PWH is a place of healing and caring and that women support each other by listening with an open heart. All women are welcome to join the group. Halloween festivities included frosting and decorating cookies to take home to their families, group participants caught flying bagels with their teeth, and luckily, no one was injured during the biting of the bagels.



O'ODHAM CAROLING

Welcome!! Waz Community, come join us for Christmas Caroling!!

“Noji Wina”

Share the Holiday Spirit with the Community!!

<p>Rehearsal Days</p> <p>Monday, November 25, 2024</p> <p>Monday, December 09, 2024</p> <p>Wednesday, December 11, 2024</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5:30pm—7:00 pm</p> <p>San Xavier District Education Center</p>	 <p>Christmas Caroling</p> <p>SX Community Christmas Dinner</p> <p>4:00pm-7:00pm</p> <p>Thursday, December 19, 2024</p> <p>Monday, December 23, 2024</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5:30pm—9:00 pm</p>
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Applications are available Monday, November 18, 2024 at SX Education Center

Front Desk (520) 807-8620

Lisa Ortega (520) 807-8626




Wak Spirit

GE'E S-HE:PIJIG MASAD/DECEMBER

Carmen Martinez ; Program Administrator

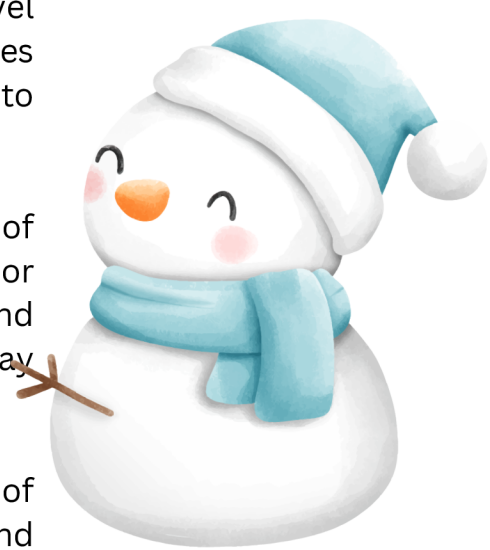
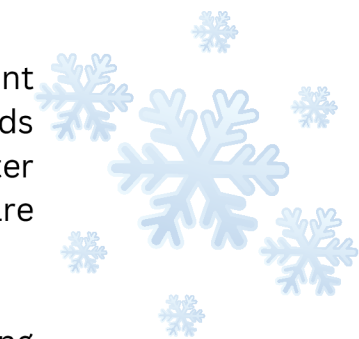
S-k:eg Tas Wa:k Community,

Welcome to December! It is amazing how quickly November went by. I hope everyone found some time to enjoy family and friends during Thanksgiving Break. We at the San Xavier Education Center are thankful for the students and families with whom we share and celebrate our work.

As you know, we have four more weeks of learning and working until the next holiday break. Our goal at the San Xavier Education Center is to use this time to move every student to the next level of learning. Please support this goal by ensuring your child does their homework daily. Thank you for all your efforts at home to get your children into the routine and swing of school.

This month is undoubtedly one of the most exciting months of the year for most of us. It is another season to be thankful for. For many, this time of year is associated with family celebrations and long-held traditions. I wish all the families a wonderful holiday season filled with happiness, lots of love, and good health.

As always, thank you for your commitment to and support of your child's education. I look forward to serving you and everyone else as you continue your education.



Important

- December 4: St. Francis Feast Day. All San Xavier District Offices closed.
- December 10: SXD Education & Health Committee Meeting.
- December 18: LAST DAY FOR After School Program for 2024.
- December 20: SUSD Records Day – No School!
- December 23 – January 3, 2025: WINTER BREAK FOR SUSD, TUSD & MORE.
- December 25: Christmas Day Observed. ALL SAN XAVIER DISTRICT OFFICES CLOSED!
- December 26: Day After Christmas Observed. ALL SAN XAVIER DISTRICT OFFICES CLOSED!
- December 31: Tuition & Books Grant application and required documents must be completed and turned into the Administrative Assistant no later than 5 p.m. for January 14, 2025, SXD Ed/Health Committee meeting.



Culture & Language Teacher

ELIZABETH ORTEGA

S-ke:g Taş N-hajun,

S-ke:g Noji Wuio kc S-he:kig Wecij Aihidag we:sig ‘em wui (Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, Everyone).

For November, I have been teaching the students to speak in O’odham It has been three months, the K-2 graders has improved their conversation in the Tohono O’odham language. Sap e-masma, man sape, api. Practicing daily is huge progress for young students, especially when hearing them speak in O’odham. I am appreciative of teaching young students the language. For upcoming events in December, there will be “Christmas Caroling” and Winter Storytelling at the San Xavier District Chambers.



Community Liaisons

ANNA BUTLER & ALIZA OSEGUEDA

S-keg Tas Wa:k Community,

We want to offer our deepest Condolences to the families that lost a loved one in November. May the Creator help your loved ones journey home and in peace.

Now that our tummies are full from Thanksgiving, we are moving into the festivities and fun in December! Our After School Program (ASP) students made the centerpieces for the Community Christmas party, so be on the lookout for creative pieces they worked on! Thank you, students!

Our Voices of Our Youth (VOY) students are showing kindness and helping the less fortunate around Tucson by giving out food and water. Thank you, kiddos, for showing great care for those who need it! The VOY students are also going to be listening to Michael Enis' O’odham Story Telling.

If your student/ students want to join the VOY Program, please don’t hesitate to come by and pick up an application here at the Education Center. We are still offering Missed bus and ASP grades 3rd and 4th applications as well.

Thank you and have a safe Holiday!

The Learning Center

Gertrude Lopez; Learning Center Coordinator

Elissa Encinas; Learning Center Aide

The library has been on an upswing with the After School Program. The program runs from 3 pm–5 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays from 1 pm to 5 pm. The Education Center is now providing transportation if your child’s bus does not go en route to the Education Center when school is dismissed. The Education Center can pick up your child at school and transport them to our After School Program. The After School Program also provides transportation home to all enrolled community members living in San Xavier when the After School Program is dismissed.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to Sister Rosalyn Muraskie from the San Xavier Mission for assisting our K–2 graders with homework.

Until next month, we send you Love, Peace, and Prayers.

San Xavier Learning Center Library—520-807-8621

SXD Books and Tuition Grant

What is needed for a Book and Tuition assistance?

- * Completed application
- * Tribal Enrollment/ OR a Family Tree if not San Xavier enrolled
- * Verification of school enrollment
- * Grades from previous semester, if applicable.
- * Billing statement
- * Summary of educational goals
- * FAFSA/Award letter
- * General Welfare Law
- * W-9

The Education and Health Committee will review all applications on the 2nd Tuesday of the month (time and dates are subject to change).



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