



# Serving Native American Students in Urban Schools

*Theresa N. Price*

*Mesa Public Schools*





# Mesa Unified School District

- 90 Schools
  - 53 Elementary
  - 13 Junior High
  - 6 High Schools
  - 19 Alternative Schools & Programs

- 74,000 K-12 Students

- **Native American Students**



**Elementary            1,753**

**Junior High            742**

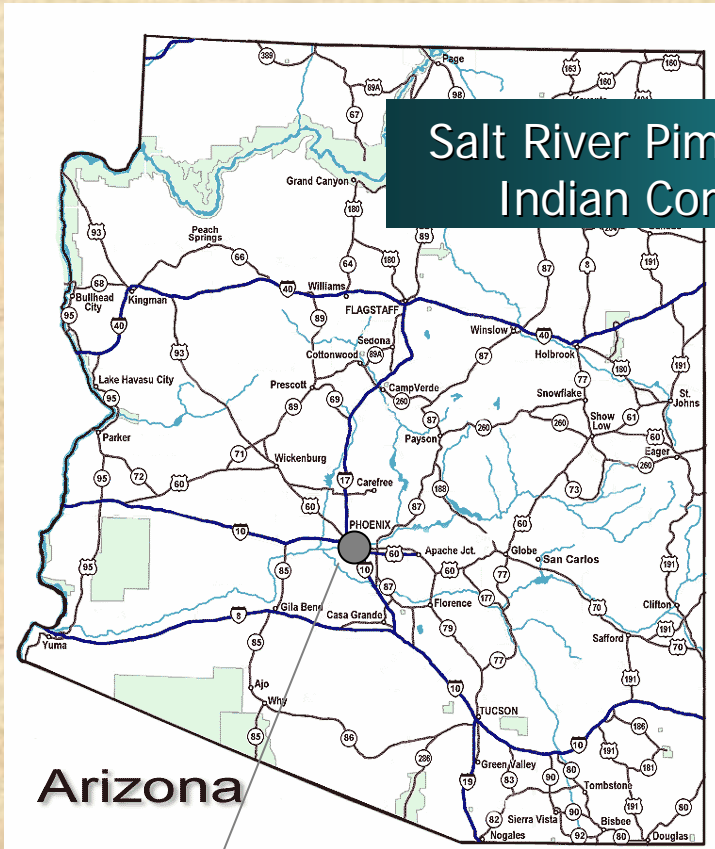
**High School            504**

**Alternative            157**



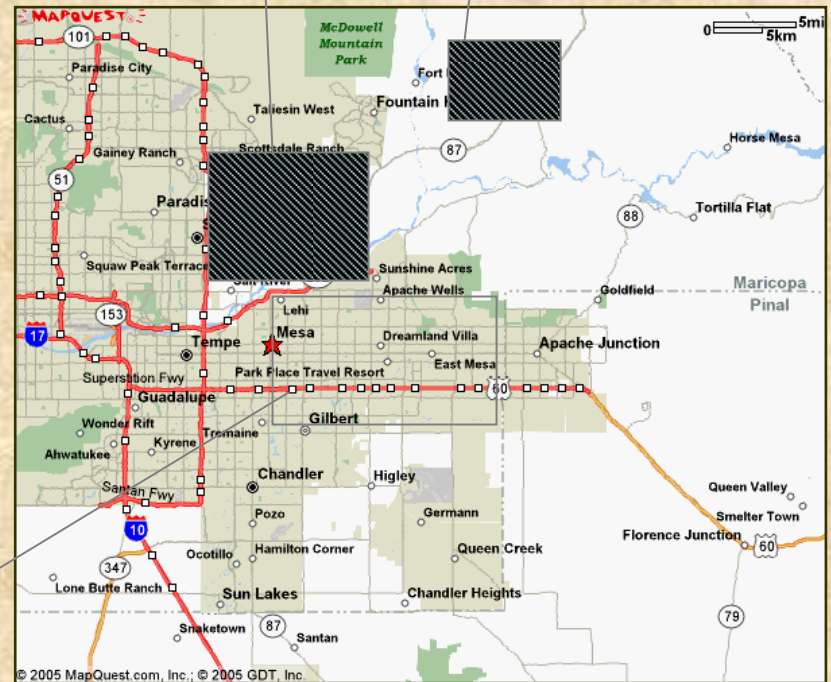
**Total            3,156**

# Mesa Unified School District



Salt River Pima Maricopa  
Indian Community

Fort McDowell  
Yavapai Nation



Mesa  
Arizona

Urban Native  
Community



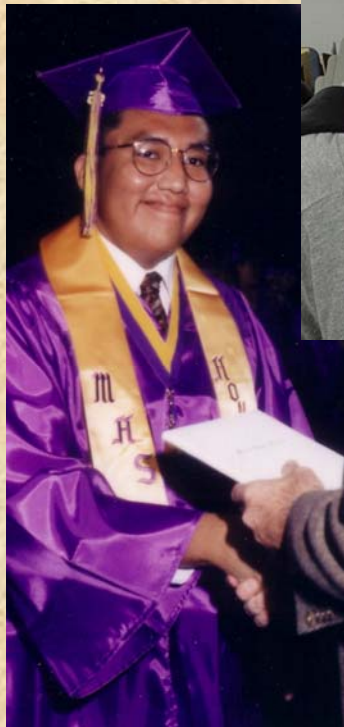


# Native American Students

- Ft. McDowell Yavapai Nation  
62 students
- Salt River Pima Maricopa Nation  
973 students
- Urban – Over 35 Tribal Nations  
169 students
- Undesignated  
430 students



# Native American Student Statistics



# Percentages of Native American Students

## Passed AIMS

2005

### Reading

	MPS	Arizona State
Grade 3	50%	45%
Grade 5	49%	44%

### Math

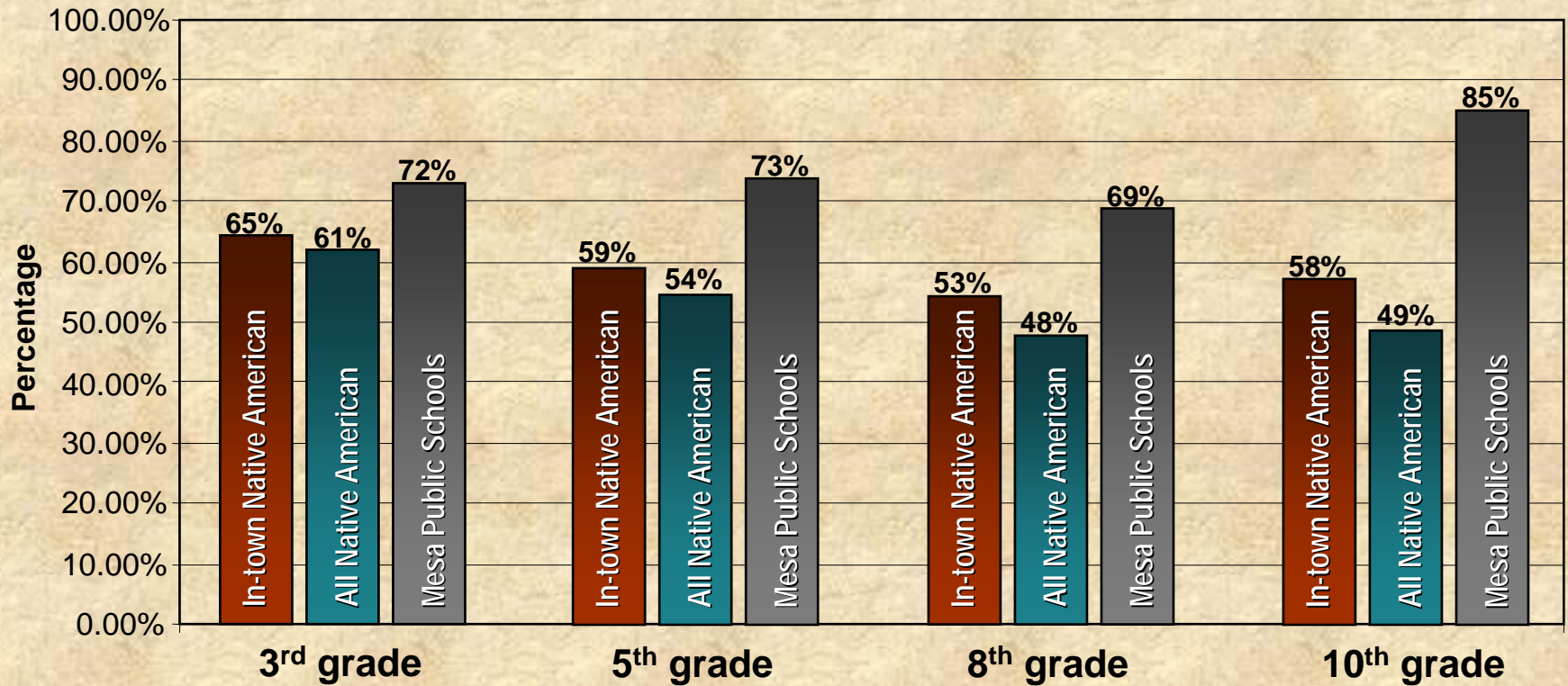
Grade 3	54%	51%
Grade 5	48%	46%

# Percentage Passing AIMS

Spring 2006

MPS/Native American Students

## READING

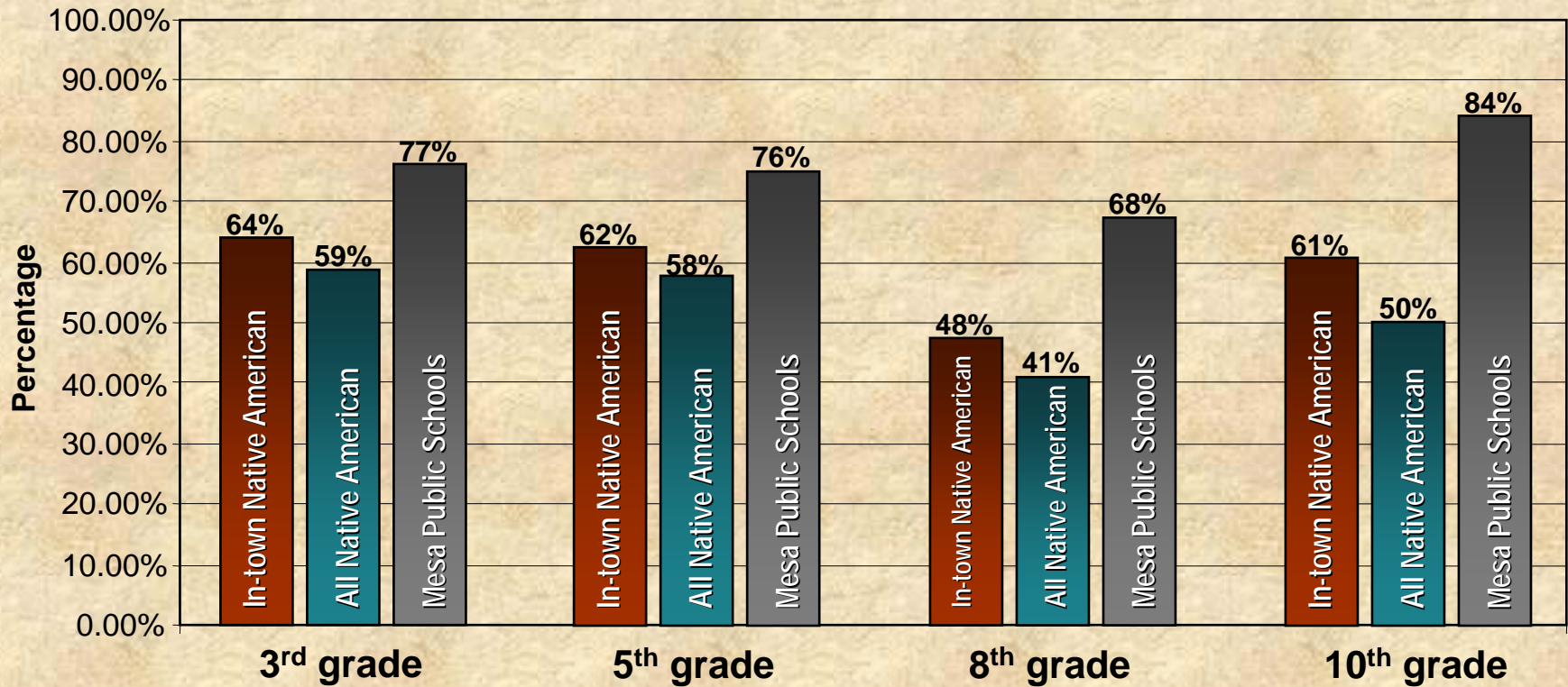


# Percentage Passing AIMS

Spring 2006

MPS/Native American Students

## MATH

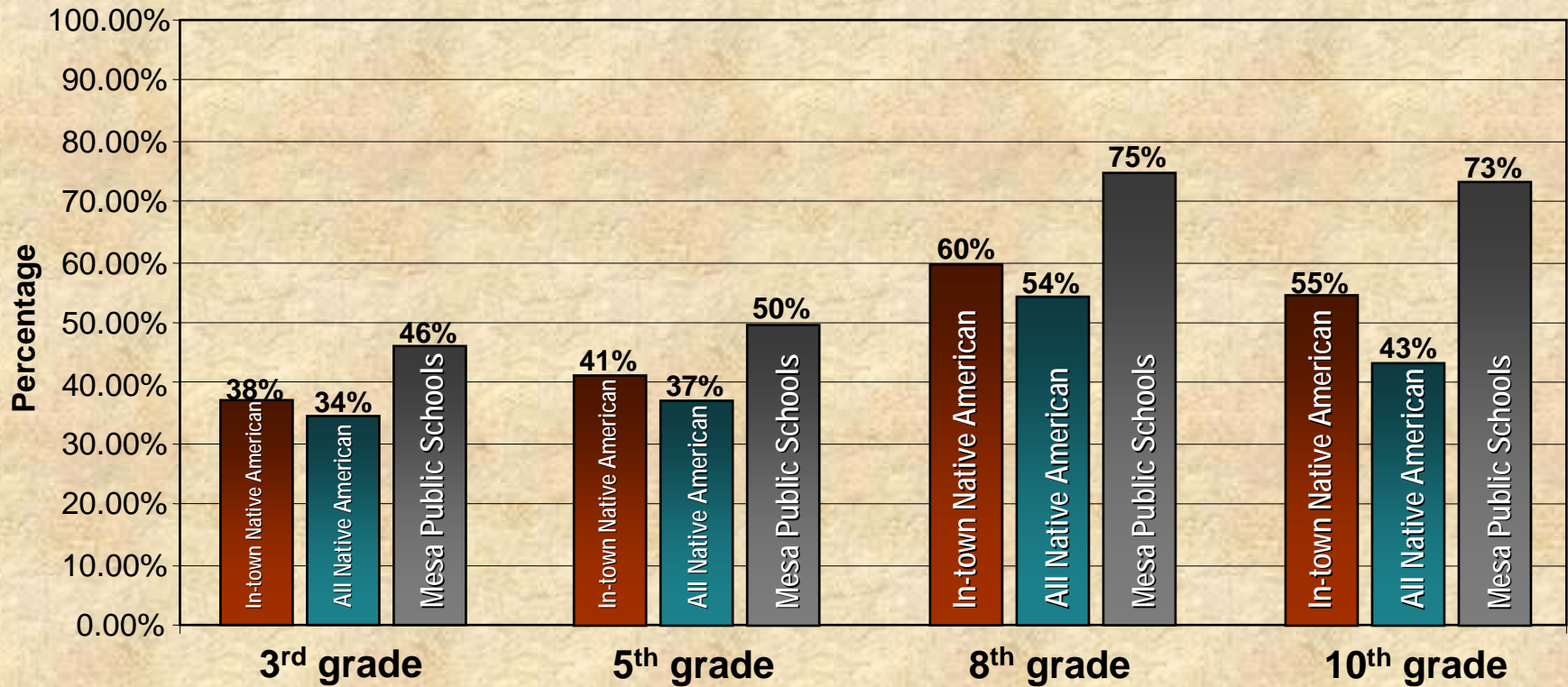


# Percentage Passing AIMS

Spring 2006

MPS/Native American Students

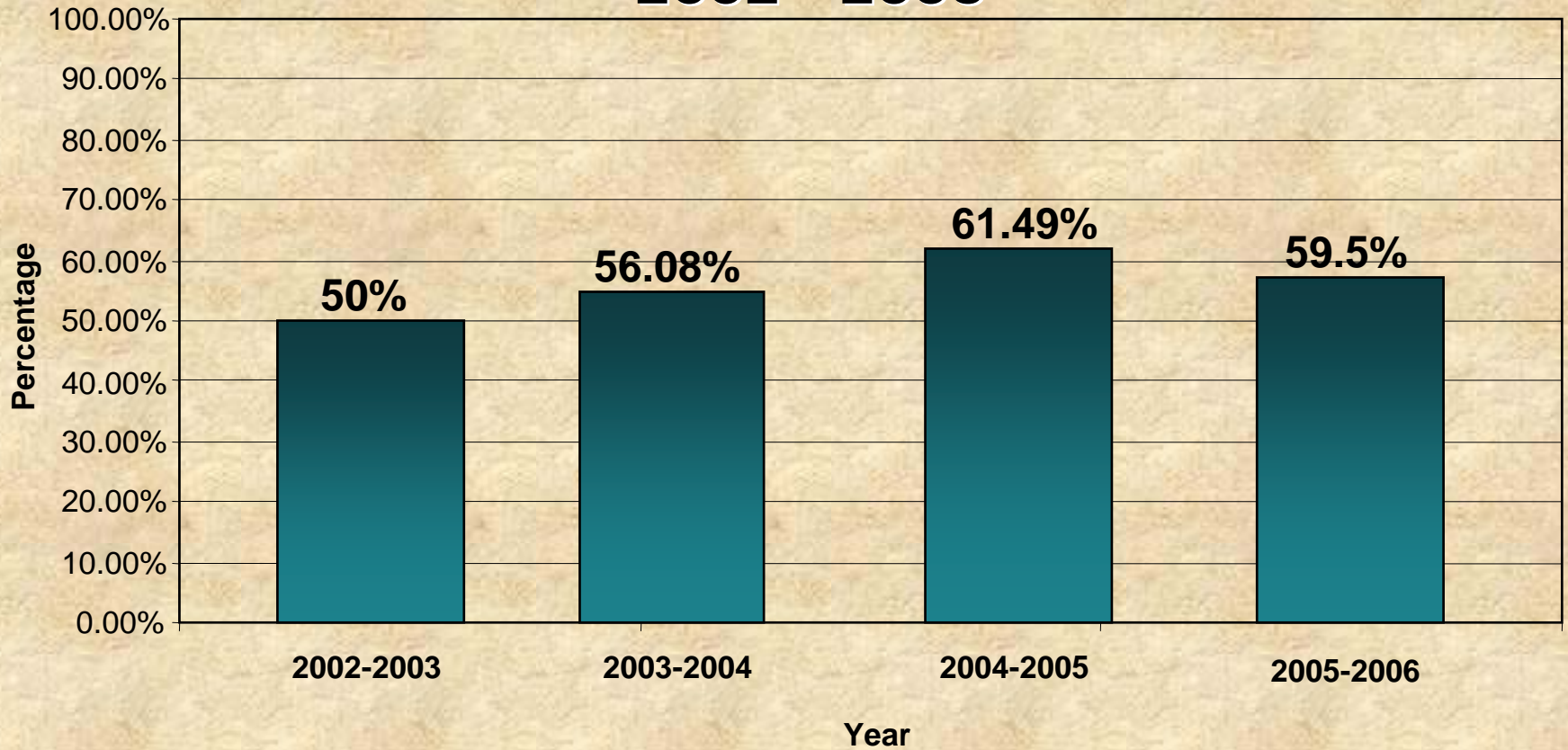
## WRITING



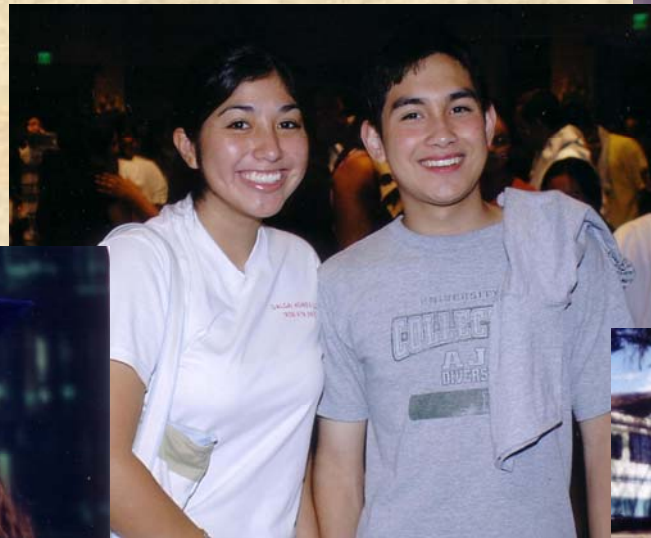
# MPS Native American Education Program

## Graduation Rates

2002 - 2006



# EDUCATIONAL STRATEGIES



# EDUCATIONAL STRATEGIES

- **Intergovernmental Agreement between local tribe and school district**
- **Assistant Superintendent and Tribal Education Representatives**
- **Principals invited to Tribal School Board Meeting**

# EDUCATIONAL STRATEGIES

- **Policy Revision**
  - **Commencement Ceremonies**
- **Student Assessment and Data**
  - **AIMS**
  - **Drop Out**
  - **Graduation**
- **Textbook Adoption Committee**

# EDUCATIONAL STRATEGIES

- **New Small Schools**
  - **Individualized attention & counseling**
  - **Health career exploration**
  - **Credit recovery programs**
  - **Behavior remediation**
  - **Structured environment**

# EDUCATIONAL STRATEGIES

- **Partnership with local community colleges**

- **HOOPS - 10-12<sup>th</sup> students enrolled in college courses**
- **Phoenix Indian Center**
  - **Learning Circle**
  - **Dine Intergenerational Class**

# EDUCATIONAL STRATEGIES

- **Native American Education Program**  
**Services holistic approach with students**
  - **Academic tracking & assistance**
  - **Attendance support includes home visits**
  - **Daily support**
  - **AIMS tracking**
  - **Acknowledge High School 3.0 students**