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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Department of Diné Education recognizes Teacher Appreciation Week**

*Even in pandemic, teachers rise to the challenge.*

**WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.** - The Navajo Nation Department of Diné Education acknowledges and thanks all the teachers across the reservation as part of Teacher Appreciation Week, which is designated during the first week of May.

The National Parent Teacher Association (PTA) first recognized Teacher Appreciation Week in 1984 to honor the people who lend their passion and skills to educating children across the country.

Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez issued a proclamation on Sunday, designating May 3-7, 2021 as Navajo Nation Teacher Appreciation Week. The proclamation honors and recognizes the schoolteachers and parents who dedicate their time and commitment to making a positive impact on the lives of children and students across the Navajo Nation.

The work that our teachers across the Navajo Nation have done, overcoming hurdles, and adapting to changing circumstances to continue providing a quality education to our children, cannot be understated. We want to thank all of them for their continued efforts and know that we appreciate everything they do every day.

#### ***THANKING THE TEACHERS***

Throughout the week, students and parents are encouraged to show their appreciation and support for the teachers who have continued to work hard to provide a quality education with all the challenges the COVID-19 pandemic has presented.

With most classes being virtual or having a combination of online and limited in-person learning, the PTA offered several suggestions to show your gratitude to local teachers:

- Email letters, cards, and messages of heartfelt appreciation.
- Create artwork, poems, and video messages to recognize and celebrate your teachers.
- Send your teachers any sort of virtual award or gift.

Due to COVID restrictions, in-person gatherings and events may be limited. Contact your local school for more information.