

Office of Standards, Curriculum & Assessments Development



Reauthorization Requirements

February 9, 2017

Department of Diné Education



Two Navajo Babies in their Cradleboards

Caption: 'Snug as two bugs in a rug'

Photographer: Frasher's [ca. 1940]

Princeton University Library. Department of Rare Books and Special Collections.. (WA) WC064, S1597



Navajo historical recording of a Spanish colonial-era expedition into Canyon de Chelly, northeastern Arizona.

While Navajo language and culture are not required by federal regulations, they are by Navajo Nation law, T-10. OSCAD prepares a report for the Navajo Nation Board of Education each year. These reports are based on the school visits done by staff, on attendance at OSCAD sponsored workshops, conference presentations and meetings, and on administration of the Oral Diné Language Assessments.

OSCAD's mission is to provide assistance and training on Navajo language and culture education. It will work with schools on curriculum development, teaching strategies and methods, and will assist with the Oral Diné Language Assessments. OSCAD also monitors the progress of implementing Navajo language and culture education.



- Provision of one (1) class hour of daily instruction in Navajo language and culture. The instruction time must be consistent and regular in order for students to acquire Navajo language and make continuous advancement and gain in their language fluency and proficiency.

K-6 – 45 minutes is a class hour

7-12 – 50-55 minutes is a class hour

Atsé Etsoh - First Big One, Symbol of Strength

- ODLA Testing

Pre-testing to be done in August and no later than September 12, 2016. This is important so that teachers, administrators and the NN BOE can see the starting point of students' Navajo language acquisition, and also their level of proficiency. Teachers can also use the data to design their lesson plans, and gauge their instruction.

Post-testing to be done no later than April. This is required so that improvement of language proficiency can be measured, and also so teachers and administrators can determine the effectiveness of their curriculum and instruction.



"October Wind" by David K. John



Navajo boys racing, Fort Defiance, Arizona 1909-2

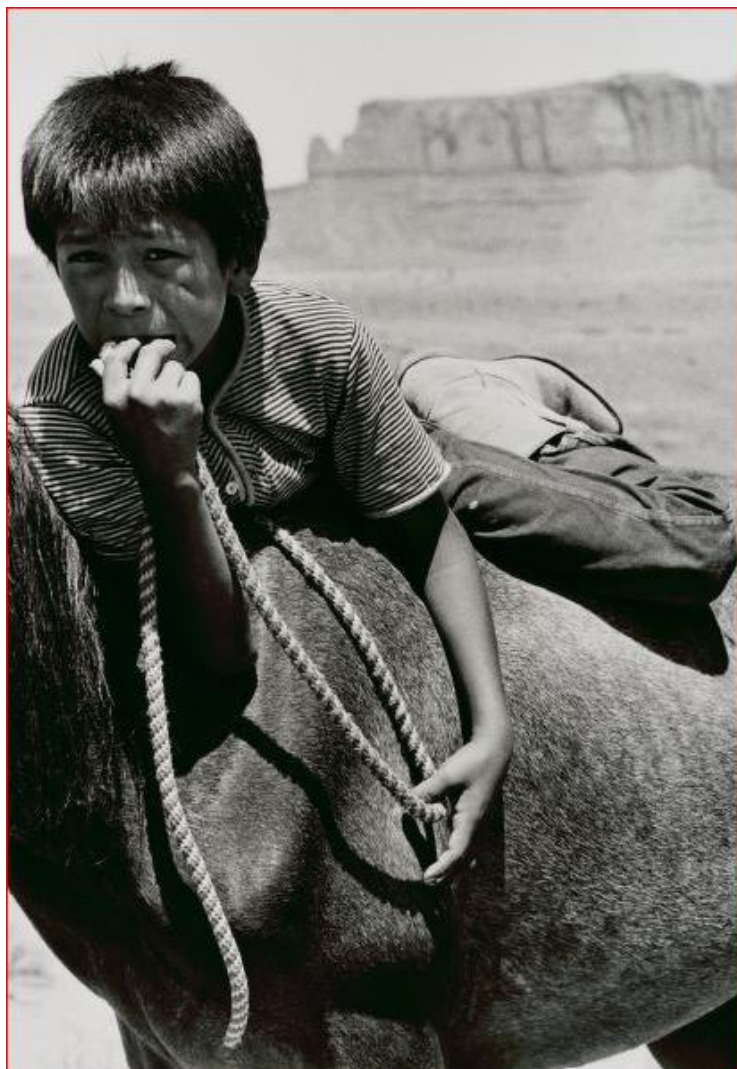
Image of boys rasind up on street with building in background;
Creator Gregory, Herbert E. (Herbert Ernest), 1869-1952;
Special Collections, J. Willard Marriott Library, University of Utah

- Implementation of the Diné Content Standards. The standards cover five (5) areas of content— language, culture, history, government and character development. Standards are for K-12 instruction; they are available on the Department of Diné Education website: nndode.org.

Grant/Contract schools are required to implement this.

Do schools have a curriculum that follows the DCS

Are they using them to guide their lesson plans, skills development, and to improve the academic achievement of their students



Navajo Boy with Horse

Monument Valley, July 1969.

Photographer: Steltzer, Ulli

Princeton University Library. Department of Rare Books and Special Collections.. (WA) WC064, L0435

- Native American Language and Culture Certification (NALCC).

All teachers of Navajo language and culture must come in to OSCAD and take the test. It is required by all three states that the Navajo Nation encompasses—Arizona, New Mexico and Utah.

It is given from 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of every month. It can take six weeks from the date of the exam for the results to be sent out.

The states have varying lengths of time that the certificates are good.

Arizona: Indigenous Language Certificate is good for 8 years.

New Mexico: Native American Language Certificate, 3 years

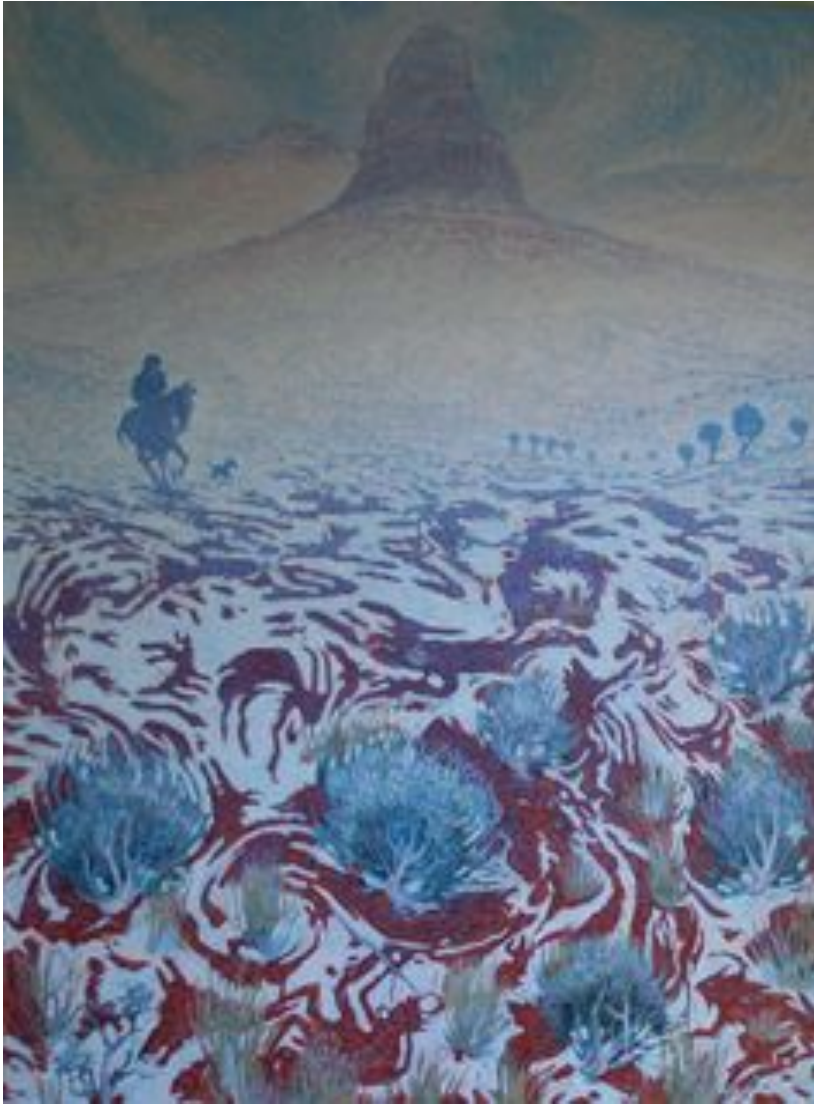
Utah: American Indian Certificate has an indefinite date; there is no expiration once you pass the test and become certified.

Language and culture teachers who wish to renew their certification in Arizona and New Mexico must be evaluated by their principal as well as a staff from OSCAD. Only OSCAD can recommend a certified teacher of Navajo language and culture for advancement or re-certification. School principals, administrators or Executive Directors cannot do it. In New Mexico it is part of the Indian Education Act requirement.



- OSCAD sponsors four (4) cluster workshops each year in addition to two (2) ODLA trainings. All are scheduled to be at the Education Building Auditorium. They start at 8:00 a.m. and end at 3:00 p.m. Participants earn a certificate which they can use as credit for professional development, and it can also be used when applying for recertification.

Navajo girls 5-6 years old selling ghost-cedar beads



- OSCAD also presents at DODE, NN, JOM, and other Navajo Nation sponsored meetings and workshops.
- Attendance at OSCAD trainings and workshops show interest and commitment by schools and are noted in reports provided to the Navajo Nation Board of Education.

Stories by Shonto Begay



Shonto Begay - From
Map of My Heart
Show in Flagstaff,
Arizona

Navajo children should be as focused, committed, caring and determined as this lady. Like her they should fulfill their responsibilities and obligations, have respect, hope, energy, know themselves, feel pride, and have reverence for all things.