



# Making the Spring Grade 2017



As the 2016-17 school year closes Nixyaawii Community School (NCS) would like to look back on several highlights for the year. To begin the year, NCS was awarded three different grants from Pendleton Bottling Company, Wildhorse Foundation and Nike. Altogether these totaled \$25,500. These grants were used to update technology throughout the school. The students and staff would like to thank these organizations once again.

Throughout the year our “Golden Eagles Wings” drum and dance group performed several times in our area. Included in this were all of Pendleton School District elementary schools and the Pendleton Early Learning Center. The group consists of 8-10 NCS students and is led by Mr. Fred Hill. This year they have performed at the State 1A Basketball Championship halftime show, the 10 year anniversary of Cayuse Technology, at Wildhorse Resort and Casino for the Tribal State and Federal Summit opening ceremonies, and before the end of the year they will be performing at EOU (Eastern Oregon University).



For our third consecutive year several students have had the opportunity to work with Crow’s Shadow Institute of the Arts (CSIA). This year the special exhibition will showcase the prints produced by this select group. The exhibiting printmaking students are: Ermia Butler, Sunshine Fuentes, EllaMae Looney, Helena Peters, Tyanna Van Pelt, and L’Rissa Sohappy. Over the past school year these students have been learning printmaking in the Crow’s Shadow studio under the direction of CSIA Master Printer, Frank Janzen. The students have been visiting once a week and building their knowledge of printmaking, this year making both linocuts and lithographs. Each student has been instructed in the technical aspects of these processes and have produced their own limited-edition prints. The resulting works are of remarkable quality and exemplify the creative potential of these talented young artists. Also, this year our Girls Basketball Team won the State 1A Championship with a perfect 27-0 record. This was the second state title

for the girls program. This team included 1A Player of the Year, Mary Stewart and first team All-State, Milan Schimmel. Head Coach Jeremy Maddern, was named State 1A Coach of the Year. On May 19<sup>th</sup> the team and all of their great supporters will gather at Wildhorse Resort and Casino for a dinner and championship ring ceremony.



Lastly, with much collaboration between PHS Principal, Dan Greenough, and Hawthorne Principal, Curt Thompson, 10 NCS students were able to take Career and Technical Education (CTE) classes at PHS and Pendleton Technical and Trades Center

(PTECH). Our students participated in Foods 1 and Robotics. In Foods 1, students have learned the basics of cooking and kitchen safety. They also helped prepare for a catering event. In Robotics, they learned to use a laser engraver and construct the vastly popular “fidget spinners”.



Nixyaawii Community School Commencement will be held at Wildhorse Resort and Casino on May 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm.

On behalf of the NCS family we would like to congratulate Mary Green on her retirement on June 5<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Green, “Mary” as most of the students would refer to her will be missed. Mary has taught Language Arts at Nixyaawii for 12 years. We wish her the best in retirement.

