

## 2021-22 Student Investment Account Annual Report

*Nixya'awii Community: Please let us know what you appreciate most about our efforts in 2021-22.*

*What would you like to see in the upcoming years? Please reach out to Ryan Heinrich at*

*[rheinrich@pendletonsd.org](mailto:rheinrich@pendletonsd.org) with your feedback and ideas.*

Required Question	Responses
<p>1. What changes in behavior, actions, policies or practices have you observed related to SIA implementation during the 2021-22 school year? How do you see these changes contributing to the goals and outcomes in your SIA plan?</p>	<p>Building the program from the ground-up last Fall and coming off of the pandemic, the lift was heavy at Nixya'awii Community School (NCS). We needed to begin by creating a strategic system of support. We started a red-flag list of students of concern to help prioritize the work and established communication with their families via phone and email.</p> <p>By mid-year, Mr. Bill was working with at-risk students daily and added one-on-one meetings with families to discuss each individual situation and devised individual plans to get students back on-track for on-time graduation. At this point, we already saw a reduction in In-School and Out-of-School suspensions.</p> <p>By the end of the year, students felt completely comfortable taking a 5-10 minute break to talk to Mr. Bill and re-focus. Any stigma of visiting the counselor's office and discussing mental/emotional issues was gone. Anecdotally, we know that this outlet kept students in school and mostly on-task. He met with every student at least once, although a handful did decline to meet with him. Out of crisis-mode, he was even able to meet with incoming freshmen from regional middle schools and support forecasting.</p> <p>Our Behavior Support Specialists work in 2021-22 is fulfilling our original outcome of meeting students' social and emotional needs of all students, fostering positive relationships with staff, and building student self-esteem to improve attendance and academic achievement. It will be difficult to tell, however, how our longitudinal growth goals will be impacted by the disruption of the pandemic. Subjectively, as a staff and school community we know that Mr. Bill's work has been tremendously impactful, but it remains to be seen if the performance data accurately reflects that reality.</p>
<p>2. What barriers or challenges to SIA implementation have you experienced that are helpful for your community and/or state leaders to be aware of? What adjustments, if any, did you make to your SIA plan as a result of these challenges?</p>	<p>Although hiring a Behavior Support Specialist was in the works before the pandemic hit, the school closures delayed the programming. In 2021-22 we were able to resume our planned SIA implementation. However, COVID outbreaks and the resulting closures continued to affect attendance and limit outreach. Our attendance data, therefore, is not an accurate reflection of the impact Mr. Bill's game-changing work has had on our school community.</p>

Required Question	Responses
<p>3. SIA implementation includes ongoing engagement with all students, focal students, families, staff, and community partners. How have relationships with or between those groups changed and/or been maintained throughout this academic year? Consider the <a href="#">Community Engagement Toolkit</a> and where your efforts might land on the Levels of Community Engagement spectrum as you complete your response.</p>	<p>Nixya'awii Community School (NCS) is unique because its very existence was willed into being by its community—a community deeply impacted by the direct, severely misguided and intentional harm inflicted on native students at boarding schools and impacting tribal culture for generations. Although chartered through the Pendleton School District, NCS is governed by its own tribal Board of Education. This Board has evolved through the decades, but maintains its vision for empowering students to better all aspects of their futures by utilizing the traditional and current advantages that tribal culture and CTUIR offers. We appreciate their clarity of vision and commitment to supporting the mental health of students.</p> <p>From the beginning, the community and educators at NCS have been in collaboration (Level 4) to grow and improve the educational opportunities and services offered at Nixya'awii. The addition of the Behavioral Support Specialist, a clear and direct result of our partnership, has been a ringing success. Parents are praising the addition of the position, staff are grateful for the support and students are so comfortable stepping out to meet with him that we are exploring how to set boundaries for them in 2022-23. Like all aspects of NCS, we continue looking to our community for guidance molding Mr. Bill's position and duties and their support in outreach efforts.</p>
<p>4. As you think about what guided your choices and prioritization efforts in this year of SIA implementation, what stands out? How will what you've learned this year impact future SIA implementation efforts?</p>	<p>Pre-pandemic, our Board, staff and community coalesced around a single goal of increasing behavioral support for Nixya'awii students. After weathering a year of CDL, starting our school year in-person with Mr. Bill on staff and available for students and staff has undoubtedly eased the transition back to a normal school year. As a tribal member himself, Mr. Bill also contributes to our efforts to build strong partnerships with the community and brings culturally-responsive practices to his work with students and staff. Moving forward, we know that even an event as disruptive as a pandemic should not knock us off a course set so definitively and wisely by our community.</p>