



WE ARE MANY UNITED

November 2025 Addition

**Native American Heritage Month,
Quarter One Check In, Invisible Capital**

A New Quarter, A Fresh Start

As quarter one wraps up and the last of the fall leaves disappear, we find ourselves entering that in-between season when routines shift, new classes and extracurriculars begin, and the pace of school life changes once again. For some students, this means adjusting to new teachers or classmates. For others, it's simply finding their footing again after a busy first stretch of the year. For educators, it often feels like we've been running a marathon just to make it through quarter one. Now, with a little breathing room, we can shift from simply surviving to being more intentional, especially when it comes to relationships. The start of a new quarter is a perfect time to check in with students, rebuild classroom routines, and strengthen connections that may have taken a backseat during the rush of fall. Small gestures, such as asking how a student's day is going, noticing a change in mood, or taking a few minutes for genuine conversation, can remind them that they belong and that someone sees them.

At the same time, it's important to remember that we can't pour from an empty cup. There is a lot of uncertainty right now, locally, nationally, and in our schools, and students are looking to us to be their safe spaces. To do that well, we have to make sure we are also caring for ourselves and finding moments of calm, joy, and connection. Whether that's through a walk with a friend, laughter with colleagues, or quiet reflection, taking care of ourselves helps us show up fully for the students who need us most. Please know I'm always available if you'd like to connect, whether it's through a quick email or a Zoom call, to check in, share ideas, or simply build community together. Sometimes those small conversations are exactly what help refill our cups and remind us why this work matters.

Learning Lunch: Building Community Through Invisible Capital

Join us for this month's Learning Lunch on invisible capital—the life experiences, interests, and knowledge that often go unseen but help shape who we are.

We'll explore how teachers can lead short "invisible capital" breakout sessions so students see them as more than just their educator. These simple, authentic moments help build connection and strengthen a sense of belonging across the school.

Everyone is welcome! While the session is geared toward adults, the ideas can easily be used with students too.

Our next Learning Lunch will be on Tuesday, December 2, from 12:00–12:30 p.m. (adjusted for fall break). If you'd like to attend, please email me and I'll send you the Zoom invite.

Native American Heritage Month



WISCONSIN FIRST NATIONS
American Indian Studies in Wisconsin

See what Indigenous education looks like in action. The Wisconsin First Nations Classroom Exemplars feature real Wisconsin teachers integrating Native perspectives into their lessons. Click on the photo on the left to learn more!

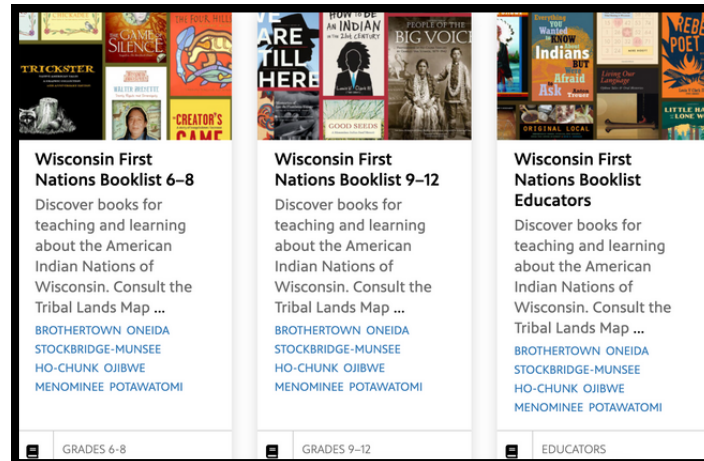
This month, we invite you to explore stories and learning tools that honor Wisconsin's Native Nations and the vibrant cultures, histories, and perspectives they share. Click on any of the photos on this page to visit resources from Wisconsin First Nations, a site dedicated to helping educators, students, and families learn from authentic Indigenous voices.

On the site, you'll find so many resources! There are detailed book lists curated by age level, complete lesson plans for all grades, classroom exemplars, and educator professional development resources. You can also explore a rich collection of educational videos, interactive tribal nation maps, and ready-to-use learning tools designed to support classrooms, libraries, and community programs.

These resources make it easy to integrate Indigenous perspectives year round, not just during Native American Heritage Month, and to celebrate the stories, leadership, and living traditions of Native Nations across Wisconsin.

Interactive Tribal Nations Maps

Explore Wisconsin through an Indigenous lens with these interactive tribal maps. Each map highlights the locations, histories, and contemporary communities of the 12 Native Nations within Wisconsin. It's a powerful way for students and educators to connect learning to place, understand whose land they live and learn on, and discover the deep roots and living presence of Native Nations across the state. Click on the photo on the right!



Wisconsin First Nations Book Lists
Looking for authentic, age-appropriate stories that highlight Indigenous voices? The Wisconsin First Nations Book Lists offer curated recommendations featuring Native authors and Wisconsin tribal communities. Each title has been thoughtfully selected to help students, educators, and families engage with stories that reflect history, identity, and belonging from Indigenous perspectives. Click the photo above to learn more!



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