

FACE
Family and Child Education

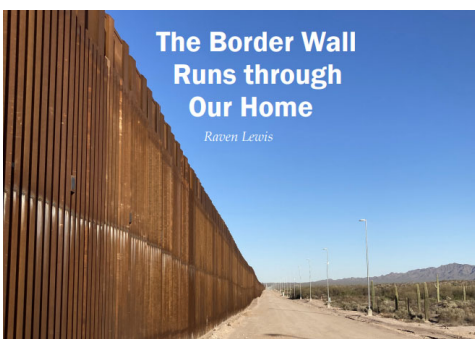


ncfl
National Center for
Families Learning

CENTER-BASED NEWS

Site Spotlight

Congratulations to Raven Lewis at Gila Crossing Community School for the publication of her article about the border wall in the August 2022 issue of *The Change Agent*. Two versions are available: a **3-page advanced intermediate level** with pictures, maps, and before and after you read activities; and a **1-page advanced beginner level**. On *The Change Agent* [website](#), the advanced beginner version is available in audio. To click the links, you will need to be logged in. If you need the username and password, please reach out to your NCFL Adult Education Technical Assistant.



January
2023

Upcoming Events

January 13, 2023; 12:00 PM Eastern
FACE Webinar: Career Readiness

January 25–26, 2023
FACE Implementation Training

January 20, 2023
Winter EOWPVTs DUE

Professional Development

Thank you to everyone who has participated in our professional development opportunities this fall. Keep a look out for more professional development opportunities this spring. If you were unable to attend our previous professional development sessions, recordings can be found below:

- **Funds of Knowledge:** Building relationships and rapport with students and families supporting them with a strengths-based approach is important for implementing FACE programming.
- **Social Emotional Learning:** This webinar focuses on the CASEL Framework for Social Emotional Learning for individuals aged kindergarten through adulthood, along with Pyramid Model Framework for children aged two through five years old and how they correlate with one another.
- **Outdoor Play:** This webinar focuses on outdoor play in your daily schedule, barriers to getting outside, and extending uninterrupted play outside.
- **Community Partnerships:** Effective community partnerships are vital to the success of FACE family literacy programs and the families they serve. You can leverage these partnerships to support adults and families holistically across program components. This can increase recruitment, retention, persistence, and adult family member success in achieving academic and parenting goals.

If you attended the webinars live or watched the recordings, please take our feedback survey by clicking [here](#). It is estimated to take approximately five minutes to complete. We will use the information to continue strengthening our webinar offerings. If you have a suggested topic for a future webinar, please be sure to share your ideas with us in the last question of the survey.



Families Learning Conference Phoenix Meetup

On December 2, 2022 in Phoenix, Arizona, NCFL staff and FACE staff had the opportunity to gather and connect in-person. That afternoon, Daniel Vandever (author of *Fall in Line Holden!* and *Herizon*) and Richelle Montoya (the first female elected to the Office of Vice President of Navajo Nation) shared their stories and insights with the group.

We were also able to honor Sue Bement on her retirement from the Bureau of Indian Education and Margo Waddell for her retirement from the National Center for Families Learning. It was a special time for all in attendance. Below are pictures from that gathering.



Site Spotlight

Allie Tibbetts, Preschool Teacher at Fond du Lac Ojibwe School, shared their Medicine Circle Project:

We created medicine circles as a week-long project. Many families are familiar with the concept of the medicine circle. It has four sections containing representations of cultural concepts. What is contained within the circle may vary in different regions and cultures. We did ours in a manner consistent with our area. Considering four is a sacred number, we included four aspects besides the colors in each of the parts of our medicine circles—the directions, sacred herbs, seasons, and an animal for each. Each student was given a circle wherein they painted the sections using black, red, and yellow, leaving the final section white. Each day thereafter, we focused on one section of the medicine circle. To accompany each section, I read books from the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission. They have available books focusing on cultural activities and concepts within the seasonal rounds with a lot of Ojibwemowin in the text. The first section we worked on was giiwedinong (the north), which was the waabishkaa (white) section and contained the season biboon (winter), which was represented by a winter tree sticker given to the children. There, we also pasted some wiingashk (sweetgrass) and a waawaashkeshi (deer) sticker. Next was yellow, which designated as waabanong (the east), which contained a ziigwan mitig (spring tree), asemaa (tobacco), and migizi (eagle). Then came the miskwaa (red) part of the circle, which the students already knew was niibin (summer) and placed a summertime tree, giizhik (cedar), and ma'iingan (wolf) in the section and designated it zhaawanong (south.) The final makadewaa (black) section was ningaabii'anong (west), where the students placed makwa (bear) and glued some bashkodejiibik (sage) there. Our medicine circles were complete!

This ended up being a lesson that covered multiple subject matters, including art, science, literacy, culture, math, colors, shapes, language, and motor skills. The medicine circles also could be something added to throughout the year along with relevant units. Most importantly, it is a culturally powerful piece the students can keep and reference and remember in their lives as they continue to grow and learn. Each piece turned out unique to each student, and there was a lot of meaning to that!



Feel free to cut off the bottom portion of this page and share with parents via bulletin boards, etc.

Parent Engagement Ideas

Salt and Sand Trays

Take writing everywhere you go by having your child use their finger as a pencil. You can set up a writing experience at home with shaving cream or salt trays by putting a small amount of salt or shaving cream on a cookie tray. Your child will do the rest! Encourage them to make straight lines, curved lines, and letters. You can also take writing straight and curved lines on the go by having your child write with their finger on the carpet, doors, windows, sand, dirt, or walls. It is important for children to use their sense of touch to help strengthen what they know about lines and letters. Most of this writing will not be kept and for some children it helps them experiment more!



Regional Technical Assistance Days

Thank you to everyone who came to Regional Technical Assistance Days and made our first in-person gathering since COVID a success! A special thank you to our host sites: Hannahville Indian School, Dzilth-Na-O-Dith-Hle Community School, and Many Farms Community School, Inc. We look forward to many more in-person gatherings in the future! Enjoy these photos from the three days!

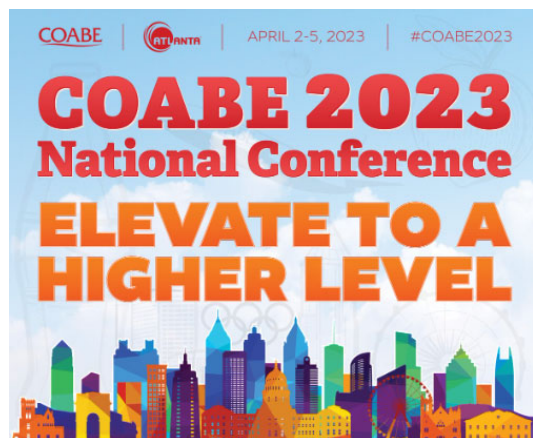


Resources

Registration is open for the 2023 COABE National Conference!

Adult learners currently in adult learner programs that are seeking their HSE, learning English, or other adult ed-specific learning opportunities are **free** to attend the conference.

Please click [here](#) to access the registration form for both in-person and virtual participants.



FACE Practitioner Committee Update

Auppa lilvakithag Mashachth—Akimel O’othem
Gichimanidoo-giizis Manidoo-giizis—Ojibwee

Happy New Year from the FACE Practitioner Committee! January is an important storytelling month for many of our FACE communities.

This is a great time to reflect with your families and your community about the important role FACE plays in your school, especially in how FACE has the potential to bring systemic change to both your school and your local community.

We are currently in our second year as a Practitioner Committee. The 2022/2023 school year committee consists of center-based FACE staff from fourteen sites. Within the eclectic group there are six preschool teachers, one preschool co-teacher, five adult education teachers, and seven coordinators, two of which also serve as administrators. Training Specialist Jeff O’Field and NCFL TA team members facilitate the committee organization and meetings in such a way that each member co-facilitates within their comfort level at some time throughout the year. Much of the work of the committee percolates from the concerns and questions the members encounter in their everyday work.

During our December meeting, the team’s focus was on collaboration. The ease of attending an online meeting has become commonplace for most educators. Ideas to fully utilize our newly acquired technology-based collaboration tools and skills were generated. Some ideas include, but are not limited to, offering a menu of meeting times and discussion topics for all center-based staff to choose from and to attend virtually. And in some instances, when geographically possible, in-person gatherings may be scheduled. It is our intent to share our best practices when possible, and to initiate important conversations that will support each team member, while at the same time bringing insight and new knowledge and learned experience to all sites through our collaborative work.

The Practitioner Committee plans to share their findings with all FACE staff through our monthly newsletter posts.

Written by Dr. Amy Jo Leonard, preschool teacher at Dunseith Indian Day School, and Kim Franklin, principal at Casa Blanca Community School. Recent frost photos taken in North Dakota by Amy Jo.



Professional Development Opportunity

Join us on Friday, January 13th, at 12:00 p.m. Eastern for a FACE webinar on **Career Readiness**. Supporting our learners in the process of becoming ready for the workplace is an important focus of adult education. In this webinar, we will examine the key aspects of career readiness. We will also explore various resources you can use to help ensure that your learners have the skills they need to set and achieve their career goals.

More information, including a Zoom link, will be shared via email soon.

Thank you for reading our December 2022 and January 2023 center-based FACE newsletter! Newsletters will be sent out via email at the beginning of every month. A complete archive of previous newsletters will be added to the [FACE website](#) soon!

If you have any news to share from your site, please send to your technical assistant or directly to face@familieslearning.org!