

# Na'teliag



September 2019

## First Annual Networking Retreat for Mi'kmaw Language Teachers



The fall weather was beautiful in Orangedale for the first annual Mi'kmaw Language Teachers Networking Retreat. From September 20th to the 22nd, approximately 45 educators spent the weekend learning, planning, laughing, and sharing knowledge and great food at Camp Rod.

Over the past few years, Mi'kmaw language teachers across the province have had the opportunity to take part in quarterly networking sessions. These sessions, held on a Saturday, generally focused on language or cultural teachings that the teachers were interested in. This year was the first time they were able to spend a weekend together.



The theme for the weekend was "Mi'kmaw History Month" and the educators were given some time to plan their lessons for the month of October and beyond. The entire weekend was packed with opportunities to share and learn from each other and from invited elders and speakers.

The first night was spent brainstorming possible lessons that could be developed from the books that have been provided by Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey. They discussed any vocabulary that was of interest from the books and also worked on developing a timeline for the month of October, highlighting what to do and what to teach.

# Networking

Saturday was a busy day where educators spent the morning learning about the protocols for the Grand Council from Kji Saqamaw Norman Sylliboy, Kji Keptin Antle Denny and Wilma Simon. They learned about the different roles in the Grand Council, the reason behind the different colours for their sashes, the process for choosing Keptins and they also got to spend some time with the new Grand Chief.

After lunch on Saturday, Joe and Judy Googoo shared their knowledge on medicines, harvesting, hunting, and preserving with the group. This was followed by some time spent with Terry and Luke Denny doing some traditional cooking.

Morgan Toney came out to play some tunes on the fiddle for the group and the evening was filled with fun and laughter playing bingo.

Sunday morning was spent planning for future retreats and professional development that they would like to receive throughout the year.

"I thought the weekend was great," said Alwyn Jeddore, Mi'kmaw Language Consultant for Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey. "I think the teachers all enjoyed the weekend and got a lot out of it. I can't wait to do it again."

All of the lessons that the teachers developed over the weekend will be uploaded onto google classroom so that they are able to share and access them at any time. It was a great weekend for everyone involved and everyone is looking forward to the next one!





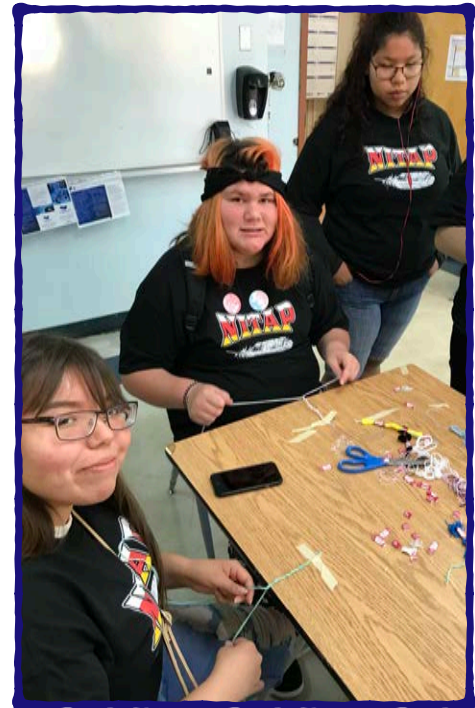
# Nitap Day

One of our favourite parts of September is celebrating Nitap Day with all of our communities. This year, schools took part in some creative events to celebrate friendships. In Membertou school, the grade 8 students were paired up with the grade primary students for a digital scavenger hunt. The students had a list of tasks including everything from culturally based activities like drumming on the drum to technology based things like finding something or someone in the school and taking a picture of it with their group. They also had school wide activities in the afternoon. We'koqma'q school spent the morning learning about being a good friend and celebrated with centres in the afternoon where students did many things together like puzzles, parachute games, and dancing. It was a great day for all of our students across the province!





# Nitap Day



# Student Success Survey

It is important to L'nu Sipuk Kina'muokuum (LSK) to create and build relationships with our students and community. With strong positive relationships we are able to better support our students. It takes a community to raise a child. Together we can accomplish so much more.

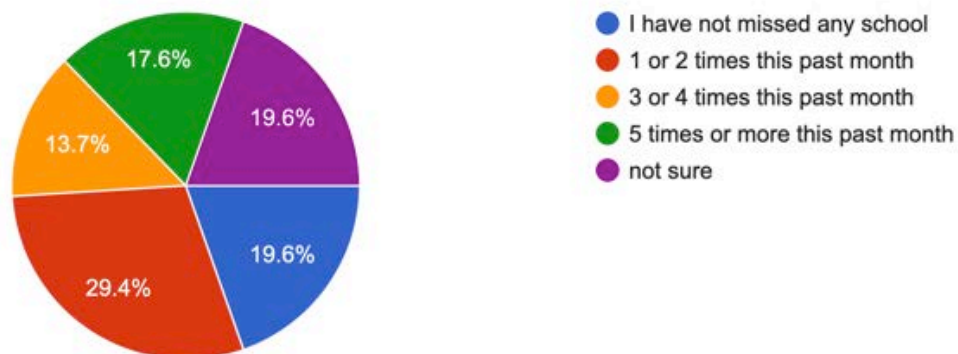
In April of 2019, L'nu Sipuk Kina'muokuum (LSK) conducted a Student Success Survey with the students in grades 4 to 12 using Google Forms. The survey was conducted to gather student's voices and find out how to make the school a better place for students. It is important to gather youth input to improve their education experience.

In September of 2019 all staff analyzed the data collected and created 3 school goals for the 2019/2020 school year. Along with goals, staff also worked together on objectives of how they can reach these goals. Together, LSK staff will be working on improving attendance, increasing the use and knowledge of the Mi'kmaq language and strengthening relationships with community members by increasing community involvement. LSK will be awarding monthly attendance awards, supporting parents, posters and language classes for staff and community events such as Fall Fair, Waltes night and Mi'kmaw tea social.

(Story submitted by LSK Principal, Kelly Oliver)

## In the past month (not including holidays) How often have you missed (been absent from) school?

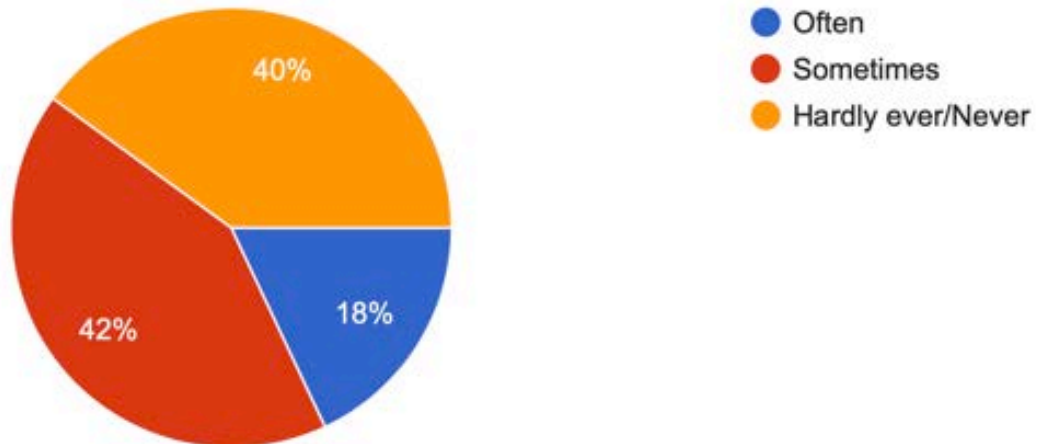
51 responses





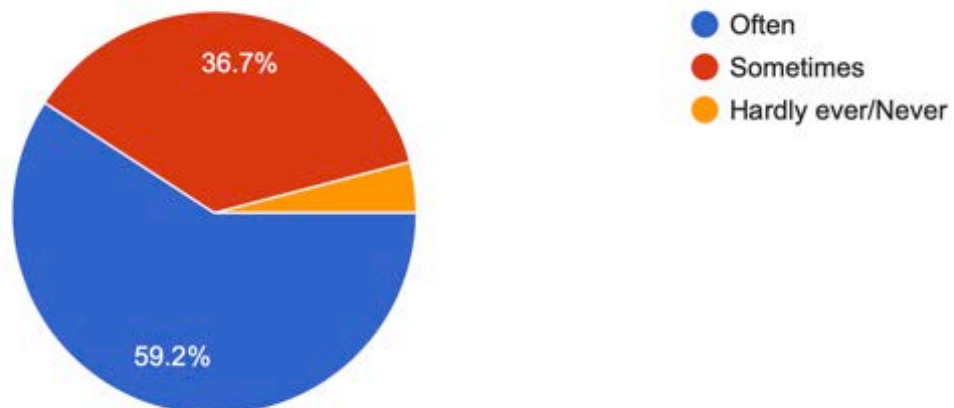
## How often do you hear Mi'kmaq language at home?

50 responses



## How often do you hear Mi'kmaq language at your school?

49 responses



# Mentor Apprentice Program

The Mentor Apprentice program is back for another year! The first meeting of the 16 groups took place in Millbrook on September 27. The groups were introduced to the program and learned about the process and expectations for the year. They received mentor apprentice guide books and they also took home flash cards which help the learner build sentences. The groups were instructed on how to record their hours and learned that independent study doesn't fit the requirements for this year. Groups must be doing one-on-one work together in order to count it towards their 400 hours. The groups will come together again half way through the year on December 6th to discuss their successes and challenges. They will share what they have been doing and what is working. They will come back together as a whole group at the end of the program on March 27 to celebrate their learning. Everyone involved is very excited to get the program going again for another year!



# Professional Development Opportunities

The staff at Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey are continuously looking for ways to support our communities, schools, and teachers in their pursuit for best practices for student learning. Each month, we offer a variety of learning opportunities for our educators across the province. This month, there have been sessions for educators at various grade levels and for different subjects covering everything from technology to Mi'kmaw language to math and literacy.

During the summer months, 7 of our educators, along with our Technology Integration Specialist, Allan Mackenzie had the opportunity to attend a training session at STFX called the Summer ICT Institute or #ITCamp2019. This session was a professional learning opportunity hosted by the Department of Ed. that was designed to support teachers in learning new ways to integrate technology outcomes and hands-on learning into their classrooms.



Another learning opportunity provided to our educators this month was on the L'nuimk Assessment. This training was offered to some of our educators in the past but not everyone had the chance to take the training before. Also, teachers are new to their position and grade level, or those who wanted a refresher on how to perform the assessment came out to learn about Antle and his friends.





YOU'RE INVITED

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# WELLNESS DAY

**MK EDUCATION  
CONFERENCE**

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NOVEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2019

REGISTRATION OPENS 8:00 AM

LOCATION

Maupeltuewey Kina'matno'kuom  
171 Tupsi Drive, Membertou, NS



Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey invites our team of educators to join us for an informative day around Wellness.

The day will be filled with guest speakers, interactive workshops, information booths, food and prizes.

Note: Each community will be responsible for the travel costs of their participants.

For more information contact:

Rebecca Scirocco, Wellness Consultant

[rebecca@kinu.ca](mailto:rebecca@kinu.ca)

**Key Note Speaker:  
Acosia Red Elk**

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A world champion jingle  
dancer, cultural  
ambassador, and healer  
through her hybrid form  
of yoga she calls Powwow  
Yoga

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# MK Sports Events Schedule 2019-20

Event	Contact	Host /School	Deadline to Register	Event Date	Start Time
<b>Ele. Basketball</b>	Donovan Christmas	Membertou	Oct.4 (Max.10)	Fri. Oct.11	11:00
<b>H.S. Co-Ed Volleyball</b>	Kim Bennett	ABMHS	Oct.16 (Max.12)	Wed. Oct. 23	11:00
<b>Mid. School Dodgeball</b>	Kelly Rushton	Potlotek	Oct.29 (Max.15)	Tues.Nov.5	11:00
<b>Ele. Hockey</b>	Calvin Stevens	Membertou Arena	Nov.7 (Max.10 Goalie)	Thurs. Nov.14	10:00
<b>H.S. Dodgeball</b>	Jennifer Sawlor	Potlotek	Nov.22 (Max 15)	Fri. Nov. 29	11:00
<b>Ele. Dodgeball</b>	Kelly Rushton	Potlotek	Nov.29 (Max 15)	Fri. Dec.6	11:00
<b>Mid. School Volleyball</b>	Brenda Paul	EEMS	Jan.10 (Max 12)	Fri.Jan.17	11:00
<b>H.S. Hockey</b>	Calvin Stevens	Membertou Arena	Feb.4 (Max 10 Goalie)	Tues.Feb.11	10:00
<b>Mid. School Soccer</b>	Donovan Christmas	CBU Dome	Feb.28	Fri.Mar.6	11:00
<b>Mid. School Hockey</b>	Calvin Stevens	Membertou Arena	Mar.18 (Max 10,Goalie)	Wed. Mar.25	10:00
<b>Badminton (Prov.)</b>	Jamie White	Wagmatcook	Apr. 8	Wed.Apr.15(U16) Fri. Apr.17(U19)	11:00
<b>Mid. School Basketball</b>	Donovan Christmas	Membertou	Apr.22 (Max.10)	Wed.Apr.29	11:00
<b>Memorial Soccer</b>	Blair Herve	Wekoqmaq	Invitational	Fri. May 8	11:00
<b>H.S. Basketball</b>	Blair Herve	Wekoqmaq	May 8	Fri. May 15	11:00
<b>H.S. Soccer</b>	Kim Bennett	CBU Dome	May 19	Tues. May 26	11:00
<b>Athletics (Ban,Midget,Jr)</b>	Tex	CBU	May 29	Tues. June 2	10:00
<b>Athletics (Atom,Peewee)</b>	Tex	CBU	June 5	Tues. June 9	10:00



# Upcoming Events

## **Elementary Basketball**

October 11 - Membertou

## **High School Volleyball**

October 23 - Eskasoni

## **Wellness Day**

November 1st - Membertou

## **Aboriginal Youth Skilled Trades Fair**

November 3-5 - Halifax

We're looking for your ideas! Contact [shara@kinu.ca](mailto:shara@kinu.ca)

We're on Facebook!



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Have an event or story idea you'd like to see in the October newsletter? Contact Shara at [shara@kinu.ca](mailto:shara@kinu.ca) or 567-0336 ext.5603