

Dakota Iapi Teunhindapi Language Meeting  
Thursday, July 24, 2008  
Lee Baker Wiconzani Centre, Sioux Valley Dakota Nation  
10:00 am – 3:00 pm

**Agenda:**

**1. Opening Prayer – Linda Eastman**

**2. Introductions:**

- Barry Hook, Dakota Tipi, Principal
- Linda Eastman, Canupawakpa – Grade 1- 5, Jr. High, High School
- Rena Wajunta, Canupawakpa – N/K Teacher, ½ teacher Grade 7 - Reston
- Noella Eagle, Education Director,
- Elaine Hall-Pratt, Director of Programs - Sioux Valley Dakota Nation
- Alvina Ross – Sioux Valley Community Members – Language Advocate
- Arlene McKay – Early Years Dakota Language Instructor
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**3. Dakota Iapi Teunhindapi Consortium Presentation – Noella Eastman & Elaine Hall-Pratt**

- Washington DC presentation – National Alliance for Saving Endangered Languages
- The losing of the value of the Dakota Language – understanding the value to spirituality, sacredness of the language, listening at Gathering historically
- Dakota Language resolution – official language declaration
- Gathering through corporate sponsorship
- People have to network together – to make it easier to work together
- Speaking the language daily
- Quarterly meetings –
- Working on standards and rubrics
- Phrasolator – an instrument for language preservation
- Evening Classes – for the children
- Language fluency – is vital in the preservation for the language
- Decolonization – changing the attitudes
- 3 – 5 Phasolators – per community if we could get a female speaker
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**4. MFNERC Presentation on Dakota Language Presentation Update – Ruth Norton**

- No representation for this meeting

**5. Language Rubrics & Standards**

- Fluency – there has to be levels of fluency –
- Beyond basic concepts

- Think tank as to what should be done
- Sample models to be shared
- Maori Language Model – Adult Learners

## 6. Current State of each community school on Language & Resources

- Rena – colors, animals, birds, Number 1 – 31, Names of the Month, Days of the Week, Curriculum, Doris Pratt coloring books,
- Linda – Have her own classrooms, paint classroom in Dakota motif, Calendar, daily routine of numbers, calendar, and commands in phrases. Teacher role for students to teach phrases. Artists in the School – community based-artist come into the classrooms. Schedule made by the school – and restricting - prayer, say this prayer when they come into the classroom before classes begin – and another prayer when they leave.
- Barry Hook – Dakota Tipi – High School programs, hoping for a language program, be using Elders to teach the language, probably after school, Nursery School – numbers, colors, have them see if they could use them in the Dakota Language. No resources at the school
- Betsy Mazawasicuna – Birdtail Sioux - class number 1 – 16, 2 high school course, calendar, greetings, translate
  - Paul Goble, Robert Munsch allowing all their books to be translated into Dakota
- Arlene – Nursery – teaches them both Dakota and English, Prayer, repetitive work, numbers, colors, shapes, etc. Basic commands, sit come, sit and listen, we are going over there,
  - Grade 1 – 4 – Learn a prayer, what to teach at the school year in the beginning and what to teach at the end.
  - Learn – everyday usage of the language
  - Basic numbers, days of the week, months of the year,
  - Seven Nature Laws – Wawokiye, etc. Teach one value for the week – waunsida – poster, how to show it when they got home, next day share their ideas
  - 4 days for the language, and one day to do art
  - Address by relative
  - Word Games – Dakota Hang Man –
  - Writing sentences
- Alvina: Worked at the Radio Station – Then she worked at Minneapolis for 4 year olds
- Granite Falls – 71 youth – taught both female and male –
- Prayer – started off with a prayer, conversational sentences, booklets, Language Immersion Training, make it fun,
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**LUNCH**

## **7. Universal Model**

- **Curriculum Guide - rubrics**

## **8. Funding**

- **Official Languages – Provincial funding as of this year \$650 M over the next 5 years**

## **9. Open Discussion**

- Noella – Gift of their First Language
- Rena – happy to network and share resources and interested in knowing what other communities are doing/feeling of isolation but it is good to have a network system to call upon each other. Nursery Curriculum
- Linda – glad to be here – happy to share ideas as to what is happening in the classrooms/ teach the language – when they first start speaking you have to speak the Dakota language to them. Teaching young children the language as they catch on the fastest. Grade 1- 4 – 30 minutes, Grades 5 – 8 – 45 minutes and High School is for one hour. Nursery Curriculum
- Barry Hook – Happy to be here – Only three speakers left – Nursery Curriculum for next meeting
- Betsy – Happy to be here – Good to work with the language – make a go of it – use the language – vital component in their family –
- Arlene – Good to gather – we have our way to teaching students – good to share ideas and materials – It is very important to bring an idea and share it for every meeting
- Alvina – happy to be in the language meeting – radio station is her focus – communication system broader to reach our fellow reserves.
- Chat Line in Dakota – in all Dakota communities
- Instructors – for High School – Historical Trip – with the Grade 12 students – within the next two years
- Oswald – language – the spiritual side of the language – self- guidance of the Creator, the young people need to know – we cannot stop – process – wasicu language is taking over – why we are sick today as a Nation. Formulate in our own mind why our language is important.
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## **10. Next Meeting**

- **August 20, 2008 – 10:00am – 3:00 pm**

## **11. Closing Prayer**