



Din4 Language Association
Nihizaad Bee Nideilish
 April 22-23, 2005 Farmington, New Mexico

Please indicate which institution you represent:

Preschool: 1 K-12 school: 27 College/University: 4 Other: 7 –Even Start, parent, Baby Face, Farm Literacy Program,

Evaluation Question, please check appropriate box. Use back of form to elaborate on any question/statement.	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	NA
Registration	24	11	1	1	1
Lunch	13	13	6		6
College Facilities	31	5			2
Date and Time of Meeting	14	14	8		2
Navajo Materials displayed	10	16	9		3

Which aspect of the conference was most significant to you?

The information given on the history of Navajo language; Mr. Redhouse's session was very interesting. I would grade all the same amounts; it just needs a bit more time.
 Assessment. Sharing ideas.
 Raymond Redhouse's presentation and the entertainment was n7zh0n7yee'.
 The politics of language. An eye opener. Dan's presentation.
 Importance of including Navajo subjects in the school, by Raymond J. Redhouse. His talk was very emotional- due to what had happened to a relative because of the Navajo language. No wonder we are trying so hard to teach the language to our Navajo children. We don't want to loose the language.
 The teaching of Jennie DeGroat. She taught step by step "How to teach our children to speak and understand the language of Diné"
 The importance of using and teaching Diné language. Our children need to become fluent speakers again.
 All.
 Navajo culture/language.
 Jennie DeGroat: To admit that we had 2nd thoughts and gave up, etc. She encouraged me to keep going. Raymond Redhouse: Importance of our language.
 When Raymond J. Redhouse talk about ceremonies and the song he sang. We should have more of that.
 The speech made by Mr. Jim.
 Blackhorse Mitchell's presentation. Also, the questioning after presentations.
 Ms. J. DeGroat's information about how as an Educator can help their community to expand the Diné language.
 Leland Leonard, Ginny DeGroat, Dan McLaughlin; political. Raymond Redhouse; background Navajo language/culture. Louise Benally-
 Leland Leonard, Jenny DeGroat, Mr. Redhouse.
 Politics of language; presentation was precise and informative.
 Interacting with other educators.
 The exchange of ideas.
 The powerful story Raymond J. Redhouse told. It was very touching and powerful, our language is unique and I understand why the people (DLA) are pushing Navajo in classroom.
 The most significant to me was the one Raymond Redhouse taught about of our language and where it came from and how much was given to us.
 Having entertainment by B. Mitchell; it provide a break from the seriousness of the presentations.
 The speakers; Mr. Leonard, Ms. DeGroat, & Mr. Redhouse. The workshop on Politics of language was good too.
 Navajo Assessment/up date.
 Dan McLaughlin; politics of language.
 The Friday afternoon and Saturday morning program.
 Altogether/overall was very helpful & useful in many ways.
 All the information.
 My main purpose is for Navajo language assessment. Our school has no assessment. I'd like to know how to start.

{1'anin7, Mitchell, ay0o shi| ya'at'eeh nit4. Aadoo Din4 baa han7go bi' nanitingo ay0o bidziil doo sha'shin. Redhouse banan4 sh1na' niizii.

Politics of Navajo language.

Presentations by Jennie DeGroat, Politics of Language. Raymond Jim Redhouse on the importance of including subjects in the school. Entertainment should be included.

Humor and entertainment that the speakers do or have as they go along doing their speech.

Jennie DeGroat's presentation, very well explained.

All of them were significant!

Jennie DeGroat's teaching was pretty good, going step by step on raising child, to use Navajo words. Raymond Redhouse good teaching on use of Navajo language.

Which aspect of the conference was least significant to you?

Participants disagreeing and not getting specific information on questions that are given.

None.

Facing a lot of failures and need to use Diné language more fluently.

Assessment information.

Starting the conference at noon time.

Leland-needs more of educator's perspectives from all the different schools.

Date: Friday-start time should be or around 10 AM to 4:30 PM-or 11 AM to 4 PM.

None. Next DLA should in Flagstaff-NAU campus.

They were all significant.

Politics of language.

Participating in the hands-on activity.

The direct speaking to audience; presenters need to interact more with audience. It's little boring if it's just "talking" Group interactions.

Need to know about Navajo laws...about language teaching.

The assessment.

! din.

Waiting Friday morning.

The assessment by Louise Benally. I thought she should be more knowledgeable in presenting her presentation instead of reading off her PowerPoint. Anyone can do PowerPoint She also could have given example copies of assessments and did more research by looking into the Hawaiian Native language Emerson and figure out the assessment instead of reading the PowerPoint. Not all teachers are weak in assessment! She needs to know the term dialect.

The least was Politics of Language, her presentation was good but she could not present it right in Navajo.

Enjoyed the whole event, all were significant.

None.

No show. Gloria Grant.

That the speakers one/or How did not show up. Very disappointed in curriculum & instructional materials.

The Anglo presenter Dan McLaughlin presented and concluded with I don't know.

None. Except presenters- 2 kind of boring.

Doo [a tsid7 y4igo a'ohgo baatsidikeezdah. Dr. DeGroat 47 t'ooyo' , doo saad ay0o neich'a'dah.

Speakers that have a hard time speaking the Diné language makes it boring. There was one person on Friday's conference.

Assessment, somewhat seem like she didn't know what she's presenting. Nothing new presented there!

Presenters.

Next conference-It would be nice to have a conference in Flagstaff if possible at NAU. If not, Farmington. October Conference.

What could be done to improve future conferences?

More sessions on language histories, culture that, as teachers, we need to know to teach our children.

Put out conferences at all the Agencies.

1 day; Friday whole day. More handouts by presenters. 2nd day; Saturday Audio portion was too fast; couldn't copy information.

More speakers and activities.

Have an elder or parent to present their input on how they feel about Diné language. What is it going?

Target younger teachers, get more members to go or come out to conferences.

If the meetings would start on time and if there would be community people, parents, and elders involved- to have their input about the Navajo language.

Provide pencils and notebooks for notes. Registration as soon as possible.

Doing an excellent job!

More presenters and more vendors.
 Bilingual teaching/speaking.
 If you could give us a list of vendors before we come. Maybe our schools could give us Purchase Orders or school checks to buy more materials.
 Put in papers on radio advertise it more.
 Get more entertainment by individuals or school Indian clubs.
 Shorter time per session (1 hour) and day maybe 9 to 3 PM or 4 PM.
 To include a community who are successful reviving the Diné language. EX: Albuquerque Diné Urban Diné. Some entertainment by students and elders; songs, poems, joke telling. Miss Navajo Nation to attend-they are "Role Model" Rachel Antone from Phoenix, AZ.
 All day on Friday. ½ day on Saturday.
 More materials displayed. Presentation of instructors who teach the language.
 Include more sessions. Set up sessions to do problem solving. I think people are hungry for dialogue.
 Could start early Friday AM.
 Better food choice. Hot food. Provide more engaging activities. Yeah, people can talk, but ? they do the talk.
 Times need to be Friday noon to evening; Saturday 7 AM to 1 PM with lunch entertainment. Split conference in Navajish; 1 room both English & Navajo and 1 room nothing but Navajo.
 To cut short of time such as on a Saturday have training at 8:00 to 1:00 PM and have entertainment at noon.
 Hands-on activities during breaks...mini-activities.
 Review over-all schedule more. Hot meals? More writers & additional singers or performers.
 Relocate conference to Flagstaff-Dook'ooos[77d. Friday all day. Saturday ½ day. List of hotels, etc. More entertainment.
 The whole conference.
 Make more speakers & presenters are committed or at least a substitute in case can't go.
 Have shorter sessions on Saturday-I think fall conference should be held at SJC. It's more convenient.
 Hand on activities/interaction as a group to do/teach with our Diné students.
 Not on weekend conference. Materials to take home-that way later on, along the line- you can remember what the workshop was.
 Nida' halne' iigii a[tso dinek'egi saad chooyoo[iigo ya'at'eeh. Nltsoos doo hahalkeedi nidi t'aa a[tso dinek'jigo bidziildo.
 Have more entertainment.
 On reservation schools at Diné College or at the school that has a strong Navajo language program.
 We want our kids and student to learn Navajo language, so they should let parents, grandparents and other to attend.
 Seem well organized although some presenters did not come.
 Presenters-be on time, show up, etc. Give hand-outs on topics discussed.
 Provide some papers and pen or pencil for notes. Be on time at registration.

For future conference planning, what would you like to have presented?

I enjoyed the presentations given in Navajo. Would like more presentations in Navajo with handouts.
 Beliefs of language usage and developing.
 More assessments. Higher level of thinking/outcomes.
 Language.
 Raymond Jim's presentation helps me reflect on my own perspective of my language views.
 Mutton stew vs. sandwich.
 I would have liked a traditional meal.
 Navajo stories-October '05 next conference. Where; Farmington-SJC 1 choice. Flagstaff NAU 2nd choice. Mid-October. Friday- Saturday?
 It's been great so far, anything that has to do with Diné language and culture, etc. developing assessments.
 Conference in each Agency; with pre-school grandparents.
 Presenters could compare the state standards to what they will present if it has to do with teaching (classroom).
 Kids from different schools and see what they are learning and what they think about Diné way.
 More of hands on.
 Maybe an elder person that expresses their concern about the state of our language. "A Wise One".
 Navajo lessons that are conducted in the classroom/presented by a Diné teacher who is successful in teaching K-12.
 Presentation of materials used by teachers. New research about various aspects of Navajo language & culture. The new goals/standards set by Tribe backed by sovereignty. San Juan School District political situation & learn it effect Navajo students.
 Curriculum. Add an entertainment like Mitchell. Singers. Jokes.
 Authors who write children's books (bilingual). Parent involvement.
 Dan Mose (clans).

Videos of places where emersion is taken place, work of students displayed on wall, teachers who are implementing emersion in classrooms sharing experience. Like they say learn from experience.

How to use good Navajo language.

Principals and teachers of schools/organizations that are promoting Navajo language to its full potential.

State plans for Navajo Nation education, public school plans.

Process of endorsement, cultural reve. Current/up dates with programs.

Everything. More culture instruction.

Instructional materials.

Need more handouts that has all information.

Examples: Nursery rhymes translated and said in Navajo or other subjects that we could use and do in the classroom.

Demonstration of hands on- how to teach Navajo language. All given topics would really help with hands on from slides.

T'aa nih7 nihi dine'e baa nidah ii[niigo ya'at'eeh sh2shin. T'aadoo bilaghaana beeso (yaal) bichi' kwiilnin7. T'ooyo' t'oo bayahasin.

Maybe.

Conference during the summer time when most teachers are out of teaching.

We want to re-learn our language, so we should have everything in Navajo.

Possibly have a school represent their curriculum and sample of teachings, strategies.

Parents issues. Different schools-share info on bilingual instruction.

Learn more on how our children can learn the Navajo language at an early age at home and all the way to high school. Friday 10:00 to 5:00 or 6:00. Saturday 9:00 to 2:00 or 3:00 PM.

Please describe the workshop(s) you found most useful.

The next workshop should be in Flagstaff. All Navajo language workshops. Overall, it was a good workshop. It has me thinking again and gained motivation on how to teach my classes. Have gotten more ideas.

All of them are very important.

Work with/with-in your community.

School board at schools; are they harmful or helpful. Next conference; October 3rd week at Farmington, NM.

Time of presentation and how they are presented.

The stories of Diné language. Being able to understand-and learn new things. The importance of Diné language.

Ways of keeping our language from generation to generation. Our kids are loosing their language we need to re-teach them.

I understand a lot of every unknown stories.

1. Up dates on Educational news/updates. 2. Winter stories, string games, 3. Dos and don'ts of speaking and behaviors. 4. Give us some body language accepted to teach with.

We as teachers need encouragement and place remind your Diné teacher's program students to help us instead of just making fun of us or telling us we don't know anything. They should be the one's encouraging us. We didn't have the rich opportunity they had. We had to go a four years college campus, stay in the dorm and have a room mate which we didn't know, and make ends meet because we didn't have money to do all the things that your students have. We only got to see our parents on vacations. Please we need respect too.

Louise Benally. Rethink the language on self.

The politics of language.

It creates a unity feeling about the our language loss. We need to form an organization that is stronger.

I think it should state "parent" instead of just other.

Very useful, all that presented, information for Educators, need community support. Friday was great and Saturday needs to end at 1 PM or 2 PM. Next conference in Flagstaff, AZ (NAU).

Need more student products.

Raymond Redhouse (topic) Leland Leonard-good. Dan McLaughlin- Louise Benally-

All that were presented.

Raymond Jim & Jennie DeGroat. The conference was very informative. Enjoyed it!

Dr. DeGroat's presentation. Farmington, Flagstaff...b7ighah.

The assessment and the songs sung by Blackhorse Mitchell.

The workshop gave me an insight of how our language is important and how it needs to be preserved. We need to stop talking about it and do it! Learn from our mistakes and experience.

The workshops was a lot of helpful and gave us good ideas.

All were useful.

The San Juan School bilingual plan, assessment instrument & language survey.

Everything! Very informative. Will use in classroom. (wish we covered materials).

Navajo language/to learn more. Navajo workshop during week (M-F) Saturday is day. Next conference in

Flagstaff, AZ. If it's in October, do it during Shiprock Fair.

Every one of them.

How the language assessment is in the making process at all school levels.

9010/9012 Louise Benally and Jennie DeGroat. Very informative but not a lot of answers.

Assessment of Navajo language.

Ayoo shi[nizhon7, hane' doo nahat'a. Do sh88 ninit'l'dah, naasgo bi hol'a at'e. Shi t'aa a[nini'aniji shi[ya'at'eeh, dam0o yazh7gon4 doo t'aa kwidi, Tot'adishi[ya'at'eeh.

Information & ?

All that as presented. More individuals that work on NDOE. Standards need to be part of DLA.

One speaker talked about saad, which was really interesting. I strongly believe we should kept our language alive.

The information and how everyone else feels about it!

All of them! Have conference Friday all day & ½ day Saturday. Should have a committee for planning for next conference. Have summer institutes for writing NL assessment for summer AZ portion/NM portion then combine or leave them separate. Who would be responsible for this?

To teach your children how to use correct Navajo words. Try to teach them more Navajo at home, make them understand. Invite some elders. Learned a lot from the conference.