

About Us

We are a Native American 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization situated in the heart of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. Our school, located 8 miles southwest of Pejuta Haka – Kyle District, is surrounded by beautiful rolling plains. Lakota Waldorf School is the only Native American Waldorf School in the USA and is tuition-free.



School Governance

The School Board consists of parents and school representatives. We welcome parents, community members and friends to volunteer and share crafts, stories, songs with the students.

Our Mission Statement

To provide a Waldorf education integrated with Lakota language and culture. Lakota children learn to create positive futures for themselves and their communities. Based on Waldorf principles our mission is to develop intellectual, social, emotional, physical and spiritual capacities of the developing child through an age-appropriate curriculum.

Admission

Parents who wish to enroll their child can submit an application for admission with the required documents to the school office.

Our School Needs Your Help

The Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota is one of the largest reservations and located in one of the poorest counties in the USA. It is home to roughly 42,000 Oglala Lakota.

Parents cannot afford tuition, therefore, we depend completely on the generous donations of individuals, foundations and corporations.

Your support can help us provide a Waldorf education, revive the Lakota language and culture and create a better future for our children.

Your contribution is deeply appreciated and can be sent to:

Lakota Waldorf School
P.O. Box 527
Three Mile Creek
Pine Ridge Indian Reservation
Kyle, South Dakota 57752
Phone: 605 455 2487

You can also make your gift through our website: www.lakotawaldorfschool.org

Contact us directly
at: info@lakotawaldorfschool.org

Pilaunypa! Thank you!



Lakota Waldorf School
P.O Box 527
Three Mile Creek
Pine Ridge Indian Reservation
Kyle, South Dakota 57752



“Wakhanjeja unkihawapi kiy Lakhol’iyapi na Lakota ouj kiy yuha manipi kte heca.”

Our children will walk with the Lakota language and Lakota way of life.

www.lakotawaldorfschool.org

Waldorf Education

In Waldorf education, teachers respond to their student's individual developmental needs at each stage of life. Students participate in age appropriate educational programming in small groups and are encouraged to use their imagination as part of their process of discovery and learning. Teachers do not grade the students' work; they evaluate the children's progress and meet with the parents at regular parent-teacher conferences. The Waldorf curriculum is rooted in academic and artistic offerings that provide practical life skills that serve the students for a lifetime.

Waldorf education is based on an anthroposophical view and understanding of the human being with body, soul and spirit; thinking, feeling and willing.



Lakota Language and Culture

Our Lakota language and cultural program is central to our work. It is the school's goal that the children develop a deep connection to the Lakota culture, deriving honor, strength and self-esteem from it.

Early Childhood Years and Kindergarten

Circle time and Lakota stories help to develop in the students the imagination and a loving relationship to the world we live in.

Further activities include Lakota storytelling, modeling with beeswax, water coloring, felting and nature walks.

Elementary Grades

Students' developmental needs are addressed in a structured environment where students learn Lakota through song, dance, games and rhymes.



Important subjects such as science, math, language arts and social studies are studied in blocks of focused time so that concentrated effort can be devoted to

an area of study. The day also includes gardening, handwork, painting, storytelling (oral tradition) and culturally relevant activities.

***“Wakħanyeza uŋkithawapi kiŋ
wowašte, wowicakħe na wowaħwala kiŋ
hena uŋ ablezapi kte lo.”***

*Our children will be enlightened through
goodness, truth and serenity.*



History

The Lakota Waldorf School was founded in 1993 by Lakota parents seeking an educational alternative for their children in which traditional Lakota values and the language could be experienced and taught. Waldorf pedagogy is consistent with many traditional Lakota cultural ways. The Lakota language and the values will form the foundation for all classes:

***Wacaŋtognaka – Generosity
Woohitika - Courage
Woyuonihax – Respect
Woksape – Wisdom***

