

NARTC-SEPTA

Program Faculty

Jennie R. Joe, PhD, MPH (Principal Investigator) (Navajo Nation) Dr. Joe has over thirty years of experience conducting research and educational programs with American Indian/Alaska Native Communities, including programs for Indian children with special needs and disabilities.

Todd Fletcher, PhD (Co-PI), is an Associate Professor in the College of Education's Special Education, Rehabilitation, and School Psychology. Dr. Fletcher currently coordinates the program for bilingual multicultural learning disabilities at the University of Arizona, where he teaches courses on Cultural and Linguistic Diversity in Exceptional Learners, Assessing Bilingual Learners, Teaching Bilingual Exceptional Learners, etc.

Tommy K. Begay, Jr., MPH, CHES (Navajo Nation), a Certified Health Education Specialist, works as Program Director for the SEPTA Program. He is also a doctoral candidate in the Department of Language, Reading and Culture (College of Education) with a major field of study in Cultural Psychology, utilizing Cultural Historical Activity Theory to study human behavior as applicable to education, health education, and community health.

Robert S. Young, PhD, is a Research Associate at NARTC. He provides technical assistance to the NARTC-SEPTA evaluation program and helps prepare the quarterly reports.

Peter Goldstein provides technical assistance for NARTC web-based distance learning courses. He is currently an undergraduate at the University of Arizona majoring in Optical Engineering with a minor in Computer Science.

Depree ShadowWalker, MA. Ed. (Mescalero Apache), is a PhD student in the Dept of Language, Reading and Culture majoring in Indigenous Language Education/American Indian Education with an emphasis in technology and literacy. Depree provides technology consultation and multimedia development.

Eligibility for Participation

The following Bureau of Indian Affairs Participants within AZ, NV and CA are eligible to participate in the NARTC-SEPTA program:

- ☪ Papago
- ☪ Pima
- ☪ Sacramento (CA)
- ☪ Ft. Apache
- ☪ Hopi

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NARTC

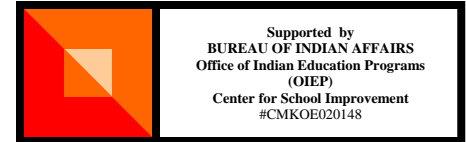
1642 E. Helen St
Tucson, Arizona 85719

Phone: 520-621-5075

Fax: 520-621-9802

Toll Free 866-218-6650

Email: ahughes@ahsc.arizona.edu



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RESEARCH AND TRAINING
CENTER (NARTC)

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
College of Medicine
Dept. of Family and Community Medicine

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SEPTA

Project Overview



The purpose of the NARTC-SEPTA project is to develop and implement a comprehensive Special Education training and technical assistance program that enhances professional development of Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and grant school personnel as a part of the BIA's comprehensive System of Personnel Development (CSPD) program. Twenty-three schools in four BIA regions within Nevada, California, and Arizona, excluding Navajo, are eligible to participate in the SEPTA program.



Program Areas

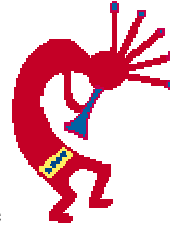
The SEPTA project has two areas of focus:

- To provide accredited training and technical assistance through summer and winter institutes and through web-based, distance learning courses in selected special education topics.
- To help BIA schools that are on corrective action status achieve adequate yearly progress sufficient to exit the corrective action designation.

Program Area I

CORRECTIVE ACTION SCHOOLS

Corrective Action Schools have been highlighted as academically underperforming. Our role is to assist those sites with the development of a school improvement process and plan that serves to remove the school from corrective action. This plan, developed at the site level, serves as a model to empower the community, parents, students, and the school to take ownership of their children's education; to honor culture, language, and community; and to prepare future generations to participate successfully within their tribal communities and as members of a larger global community.



Program Area II

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING

The NARTC-SEPTA project provides quality, sustained, accredited summer and winter institutes and web based courses for teachers, administrators, Para educators, and other personnel working with special education students in BIA schools and grant schools in Arizona, Nevada, and California.

Instructional Topics

The Institutes and web based courses include instruction in the following areas: 1) disabilities, 2) inclusion, 3) culture and disability, 4) culture and learning, 5) special education (including IEP development), 6) curriculum development, 7) transitioning, 8) partnering with families, 9) providing positive behavioral support for special ed. students with social-behavioral problems and discipline issues, and 10) policy issues.



Supported by
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
Office of Indian Education
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Center for School Improvement

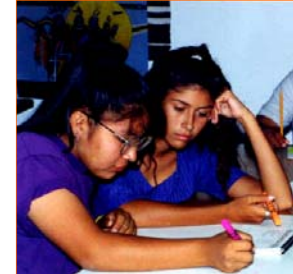
Eligibility for Participation

The following BIA Participants within Arizona, Nevada and California are eligible to participate in the NARTC-SEPTA program:

- General education teachers
- Special education teachers
- School administrators
- Special education coordinators
- Para educators (teachers' aides) who work with children with special needs
- Parents

College Credit

The Institutes and the web-based courses will carry course credit through the Continuing Education Program at the University of Arizona and are expense free for participants through funds provided by SEPTA.



Contact

Tommy Begay or Pandora Hughes

NARTC-SEPTA

1642 E. Helen St
Tucson, Arizona 85719

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