

MAŊPÍYA LÚTA

RED CLOUD

2021-2022
ANNUAL REPORT

Reflections with the President

Reflecting on the 2021-22 year, I can safely say we all collectively felt the pressures of operating in an on-going pandemic. As I reflect, the perseverance and resilience of the community demonstrated by Red Cloud and the valor of so many of you to support our team's perseverance. Our school administrators opened the school year under a mask mandate and social distancing requirements but were determined to have in-person options for returning students. All year, our student athletes played their respective sports, but to limited spectators. All leading up to beautiful in-person graduations and end of year celebrations.

The Heritage Center and our churches also began "re-opening" and expanding their services as well. After a pandemic hiatus, The Heritage Center opened their annual Art Show in-person while also offering online viewing options. Churches went back in-person masses and opened doors for more community activities.

This year also marked huge progress in our Truth and Healing work. We began by hosting initial learning conversations with community members and alumni, formed a Community Advisory Committee, began our Ground Penetrating Radar projects with a community demonstration and examination of a field and area of interest in Drexel Hall basement, identified an archivist who will begin initial research in our archives, and began planning for an oral history project that will begin collecting the stories from alumni that attended the school while it was a boarding school.

This year we persevered through everchanging pandemic restrictions, recommendations and stipulations. All to emerge on the other side with a greater appreciation for one another, for what we do here at Red Cloud, and a great appreciation for our students, artists, families, and parishioners. All in all, I would say it was a challenging but fulfilling year that we all tried to meet with grace, persistence, prayer, and a little humor.

Raymond A. Nadolny, PhD
President



YEAR 2021

July 2021

Red Cloud marks another year of Truth and Healing. This month was especially difficult as the world learned of the discovery of thousands of unmarked graves at former residential schools in Canada. Red Cloud's response was swift and led to later re-prioritization of the use of ground penetrating radar on campus.

Red Cloud's Executive Vice President Tashina Banks Rama published an op-ed in the Rapid City Journal challenging Red Cloud to take specific action in the organization's work toward truth and healing.



August 2021

Two high school students, Destiny Big Crow and Jordan Little Whiteman, represented Red Cloud at the Native Youth Leadership Summit that kicked off the new Partnerships with Native Americans Youth Advisory Board. This advisory board was designed to provide youth the opportunity to express their leadership and voice support for food sovereignty.

Lakḥota food sovereignty is a vital movement at Red Cloud because it helps to revitalize cultural ways, provides students the chance to actively care for the earth, learn about where food comes from, and aims to build healthier communities.



Lakḥota Food Sovereignty

September 2021

Red Cloud students, like so many other young people across the country, have struggled to stay connected during the pandemic. When it was announced that schools on the reservation would need to enter a 10-day quarantine before returning to school, Red Cloud students led a peaceful and respectful protest to make their voices heard - they wanted to be in school with their teachers and classmates. Due to their actions, the Tribal Council lifted the 10-day quarantine requirement for all schools.





October 2021

To mark both Orange Shirt Day and Indigenous Peoples' Day, the Wówičak̄he na Wóasniye - Red Cloud's Truth and Healing Student Advocacy Group - led our community in honoring those lost during the Indian Boarding School Era. Students painted six desks orange to represent the 6,000+ graves found at former boarding schools, and to capture the thoughts, reflections, and prayers of the community.

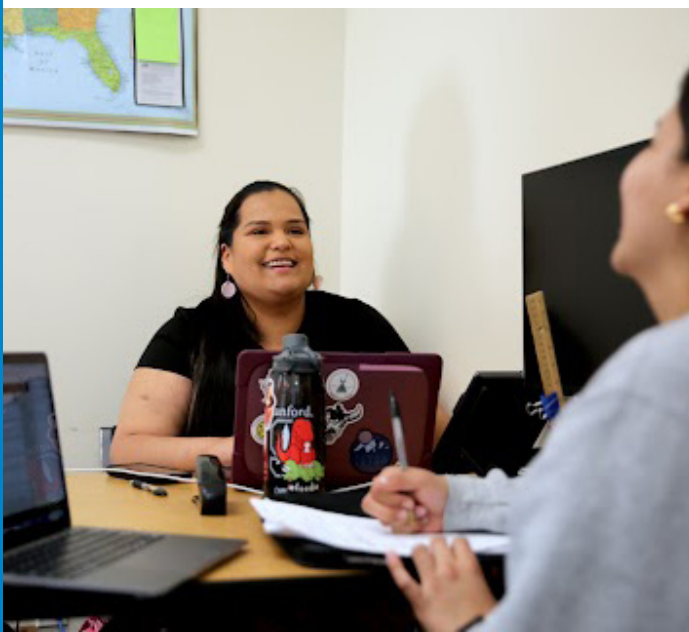
Opus Prize Foundation



Bob Brave Heart (Left) , Fr. Peter Klink S.J. (Right)

November 2021

On November 11, 2021, The Opus Prize Foundation, in partnership with Loyola University Chicago, named Red Cloud Indian School the winner of 2021 Opus Prize at an award ceremony held on the Loyola University's campus in Chicago. The Opus Prize is an annual award recognizing individuals or organizations who champion faith-filled change. This year, The Opus Prize was named in honor of Fr. Peter Klink, S.J. and Bob Brave Heart, both who have served at Red Cloud Indian School for more than 75 years combined. The Opus Prize is given not only to expand the humanitarian efforts of the recipient but to inspire others to pursue lives of service and is one of the world's largest faith-based, humanitarian awards for social innovation.



December 2021

January Tobacco, the Director of Graduate and Alumni Success, is a Red Cloud alum that graduated from Stanford University and has returned to Red Cloud to assist other Red Cloud alums in their college journey. Established over ten years ago, the Office of Graduate and Alumni Success provides support for Red Cloud students preparing for college and assists Red Cloud alumni that are currently navigating college life. In the 2021/22 school year, January assisted over 250 Red Cloud alums and expanded her office by hiring a Graduate Success Associate to assist in alumni outreach. Koty Lebeaux-Janis, another Red Cloud alum and Black Hills State graduate, joined the office and will help expand outreach to more college-attending Red Cloud alums!

YEAR 2022

January 2022

The Spiritual Formation Program continues to be an essential cornerstone of the educational offerings for our students here at Red Cloud. The program provides far more than educational and academic lessons in the dual spiritualities of Lakḥóta and Catholic. At the heart of the Spiritual Formation Program are the spiritual formation retreats. Retreats are taken by class-level in high school and serve as an invitation for students to explore on a deeper level, their own spirituality and how they relate to T̥hunkášila – God. Each year, retreats are tailored to the needs and hopes of each class. Retreats are organized in partnership between the Spiritual Formation department staff and the Spiritual Leadership Team – a group of upperclassmen demonstrating leadership and interest in planning spiritual formation activities. In 2022, we saw the re-emergence of in-person retreats lasting a day in locations off-campus.

February 2022

For the 2021-22 academic year, the Red Cloud girls' basketball team successes were both on the court and in the classroom. At the end of the 2021-22 basketball season, Red Cloud had six Academic All Staters. Developed by the South Dakota High School Coaches Association, Academic All Stater athletes must have a cumulative 3.5 or higher GPA and played High School Basketball for at least 3 years. Congratulations to Raina Ghost Bear, Stevi Fallis, Sharissa Haas, Jordan Derby, Allison Richards, and Cheree Ferguson for their hard work and determination to succeed in the classroom! It should be noted all six are currently student athletes in their respective colleges and universities!

After a stellar 20-2 season, which included the 2021 LNI Championship, the Red Cloud Girls Basketball team would make their way to the State "A" Basketball Tournament, where they would take 5th! Thank you girls for an exceptional season!

March 2022

On February 28, Br. Joe Fleischmann, S.J. professed his final vows in the Society of Jesus at a Mass at Holy Rosary Church on the Red Cloud main campus. Even though we are a Lakota Catholic school, several of us staff still had little understanding of what final vows mean. One analogy, an imperfect one, is to think of final vows for a Jesuit as somewhat like a professor making tenure. Another analogy, again an imperfect one, is an attorney making partner at a law firm. In our research, we found another explanation from one Jesuit as, "at First Vows, you accept the Society; at Final Vows, the Society accepts you." Congrats Brother Joe.



2021 LNI Championship



April 2022

April was a month of firsts for Red Cloud schools. In this month, Red Cloud High School hosted the very first Lakȝol Wičoharj Culture Fair, Red Cloud Middle School hosted their first annual Science Fair, and both Red Cloud and Our Lady of Lourdes elementary celebrated Spring at their respective first Family Literacy Nights! Both cultural and science fairs will become annual events, and the family literacy nights will be incorporated more regularly in the next academic year.

May 2022

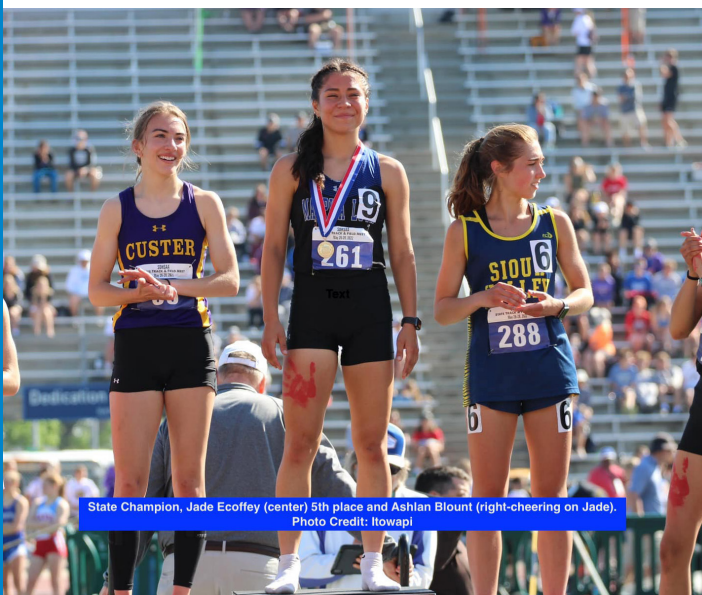
Saturday, May 14th was a beautiful, sunny day as 34 Red Cloud Seniors walked the commencement stage in front of their family and friends officially graduating high school. The Class of 2022 were sophomores when the pandemic first hit and showed true perseverance and tenacity as they navigated the everchanging safety recommendations and requirements throughout the pandemic. Of our 34 graduates, 31 (91%) had plans to continue their education and are headed to post-secondary institutions, 1 graduate is headed to the Army, and 2 will take a gap year before deciding on where to go to school. To date, these students have plans to attend the South Dakota School of Mines, South Dakota State University, Bismarck State University, University of Oklahoma, and University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, among others. They will pursue academic majors that include nursing, animal science, environmental science, elementary education, business administration, and special education. Caleb "Alex" Flournoy was named a part of South Dakota's Best and Brightest of the Class of 2022. He was recognized for his academic excellence and was among the students honored by Governor Noem and the Associated School Boards of South Dakota (ASBSD) at the 32nd Annual Academic Excellence Recognition event. Congratulations to the Class of 2022! We know your perseverance and dedication will serve you well on your chosen path forward!

The Red Cloud Girls Track team competed in the state meet hosted in Sioux Falls. Small but mighty, the state qualifying team consisted of only four runners; Cheree Ferguson, senior, Jade Ecoffey, junior, and two middle schoolers - Ashlan Blount and Rarity Cournoyer. Each runner placed in their individual events. Junior Jade Ecoffey took first place in both the 1600-meter race and 3200-meter race, Jade is now a 4-time State Champion as she won both races previously at the 2021 State Meet. As a team, they finished in 6th place overall. Congratulations Girls We are proud of you!

CLASS OF 2022



34 seniors graduated Saturday, May 14th, 2022.



State Champion, Jade Ecoffey (center) 5th place and Ashlan Blount (right-cheering on Jade).
Photo Credit: Itowapi

54th annual Red Cloud Indian ART SHOW

June 5 - August 14, 2022

Topaz Jones (Shoshone, Kalapuya, Molalla, Lummi),
Rise Above Little Warrior, acrylic on wood



June 2022

The 54th Annual Red Cloud Art Show opened Saturday, June 4th. After two years of virtual openings, the art show opening was a blend of in-person and virtual offerings. The 2022 art show consisted of 149 entries from 63 artists representing 24 tribal affiliations from all over the United States and Canada. The art show is open for ten weeks every summer!

Financial Report for Fiscal Year 22

Fiscal year operates from: July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

Operating Revenues, Income and Support

Contributions and Grants	\$18,384,272
Contributed Services	\$1,872,086
Investment Income Authorized for Spending	\$656,893
Other Revenues	\$385,303

TOTAL Revenues and Support \$21,298,554

Operating Expenses and Costs

Schools	\$10,347,251
Churches	\$907,590
The Heritage Center	\$616,391
Public Information and Education	\$318,983
Socio - Pastoral	\$907,590

TOTAL Operating Costs \$13,097,805

Administration/Support Services	\$2,895,302
Advancement Expenses/Costs	\$4,211,077
TOTAL Admin and Advancement Costs	\$7,106,379

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES AND COSTS \$18,977,611

Total Increase in Net Assets Held in Perpetuity	\$268,916
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	\$2,052,027

Notes: The financial report covers the period from July 1, 2021 through June 30th, 2022 (FY22)

Overall increase in net assets in FY22 is \$5,399,461 .

End of year net assets in FY22 is \$73,252,837

Maḥpíya Lúta | Red Cloud, a Catholic Institution administered by the Jesuits and the Lakota people, is to develop and grow as a vibrant Church, through an education of the mind and spirit that promotes Lakota and Catholic values.

Note: A task force of staff are presently working on revising and updating the mission statement to reflect current work and values.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS 2021-22

BR. JAMES BOYNTON, S.J.

Chair, The Heritage Center Committee
Enrolled member of the Sault Ste. Marie Ojibwe
(Chippewa) Tribe

RODNEY BORDEAUX

Chair, Red Cloud Board of Directors and Executive
Committee
Enrolled member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe

FR. JOSEPH DAOUST, S.J. (EX-OFFICIO)

Superior, DeSmet Jesuit Community
Chair, Mission and Identity Committee

MARY GRESENS

Chair, Finance Committee, Budget and Audit
sub-committee
Treasurer, Red Cloud Board of Directors

SAM O'ROURKE

Enrolled member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe

PAUL DAOUST

Chair, Advancement Committee

RAYMOND NADOLNY, PH.D. (EX-OFFICIO)

President, Red Cloud Indian School, Inc.

DAKOTA HOSKA

Enrolled member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe

BRENDAN KENNEALEY

Chair, Education Committee

LAURENCE WEITHERS

Chair, Investments subcommittee

STEPHEN F. MCCARTHY

Chair, Facilities subcommittee

DELPHINE RED SHIRT

Enrolled member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe

NORMA J. TIBBITTS

Enrolled member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe

SARAH WHITE PIERCE

Enrolled member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe

FR. THOMAS MERKEL, S.J.

Vice Chair, Red Cloud Board of Directors

JOHN LEVY

REV. JAMES M. WEISS

STEPHEN A. WILCOX

WILLIAM WHITAKER

LISA F. RYAN

MICHAEL HORA

KEVIN BURNS

FR. JAMES M. KUBICKI, S.J.



Looking Forward with the Executive Vice President

For the past few years, Red Cloud Indian School, Inc. has embarked on a journey to better understand who we are, what we represent, and our impact. From the initiation of the deeply complex work of our Truth and Healing office to the continued expansion of Lakḥóta language immersion in our elementaries, we recognize we are changing in a beautiful way. In the coming years, you will see the Red Cloud Indian School brand shift into a new era. In 2022, the Board of Directors passed a motion to officially do business as Maḥpíya Lúta. Maḥpíya Lúta is how you say Red Cloud in the Lakḥóta language. The Board and leadership felt this name change was more inclusive of all the work we do as an organization and a more accurate representation of the man in which our organization is named after - Maḥpíya Lúta (Red Cloud). We consulted with members of the Red Cloud family to ensure this name change was appropriate and aligned with their wishes. You will also see changes in our social media and other organization publications as we retire former logos and colors. Some things will not be retired but may see a refresh, like our beloved school logo of the warrior riding the horse on the buffalo skull.

Our schools, churches and The Heritage Center have been working on developing new vision and mission statements, updating values, and strategic plans. This work will help build a new vision and mission statement, values and strategic plan for the organization overall. We have also begun the long work of rebuilding our organization website to better serve all of our organization constituents. We've begun a capital campaign that will help us increase teacher's salaries, renovate and upgrade aging facilities, and will help build a new Heritage Center.

Finally, you will see even more expansion in our transformational programs. Lakḥóta Language immersion will continue expanding their reach in elementary and with our families. Our Food Sovereignty program has begun incorporating food grown on campus into our cafeterias. Eggs from our chickens are a regular item in our breakfasts and salad bar. Our partnerships with other food sovereignty entities will help increase our use of traditional Lakḥóta foods in our school meals. Lastly, Truth and Healing has begun deep research into the archives, has begun building a curriculum for our schools, and has started collecting testimonies from alumni for the oral history project. These activities will help us further understand our organization's history as a boarding school, impact of that history, and how to move forward towards healing.

We know annual reports are typically a time to reflect but we are excited to share this look forward with all of you and for you to see the changes and transformations taking place now and the years ahead. We hope you will celebrate with us as we continue to grow!

Tashina Banks Rama,
Executive Vice President