



Opportunity Through Education

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MEMORANDUM NO. 2022-064

TO: School District Superintendents
High School Principals
K-12 Teachers

FROM: Wanda Maloney, Chief Policy Officer

DATE: May 16, 2022

SUBJECT: 2022 Native American Education Conference

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THE 13TH ANNUAL NATIVE AMERICAN EDUCATION CONFERENCE

Registration is open for the 13th annual Native American Education Conference, set for 1 p.m. on August 2 through 3:30 p.m. on August 4 at Central Wyoming College in Riverton. The conference is open to educators, community members, and youth entering grades 6-12. Register [here](#).

This year's keynote speakers include:

- Ryan Wetzel - Blackfeet, mental health professional, and former professional basketball player. His presentation, "*Never Too Late*," will inspire youth through his story of being headed for stardom as a high school sports star, the injuries and depression that shattered the dream, and the resurrection and purpose discovered through the healing process.
- Sandra Ashley - Saponi, Shawnee, White Mountain Apache, Indian education specialist, journalist, historian, and artist. She will ask the question, "*What is a Proper Education?*" and will offer an answer from a traditional holistic perspective, and review the ways that relationships and resilience are connected to the indigenous worldview.

In addition, workshops and break-out sessions on the following strands will be available:

- Understanding Native American history and culture.
- Classroom techniques for enhancing Native student achievement.
- Meeting emotional and social needs of Native American students.
- Inspiring youth leadership and empowerment.

More information is available [online](#). The cost for adults is \$25, plus processing fees. Youth (22 years of age and under) attend for free.

For more information, contact Rob Black, Native American Liaison, at 307-777-3747 or rob.black1@wyo.gov.