



Indigenous Educators Unite

HOW TO INDIGENIZE ZOOM

Presented by Indigenous Educators Unite

June 17, 2020

Note: The #s indicate tips!

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WHO WOULD LIKE TO OPEN OUR MEETING WITH A PRAYER?

1. Open the meeting space up with a prayer.



WE HONOR THE TRADITIONAL HOMELANDS OF _____.

2. Situate the meeting – provide a land acknowledgment that honors Indigenous people.

IN TIMES OF CHANGE, KNOW THAT YOU ARE YOUR ANCESTORS' BIGGEST DREAMS!

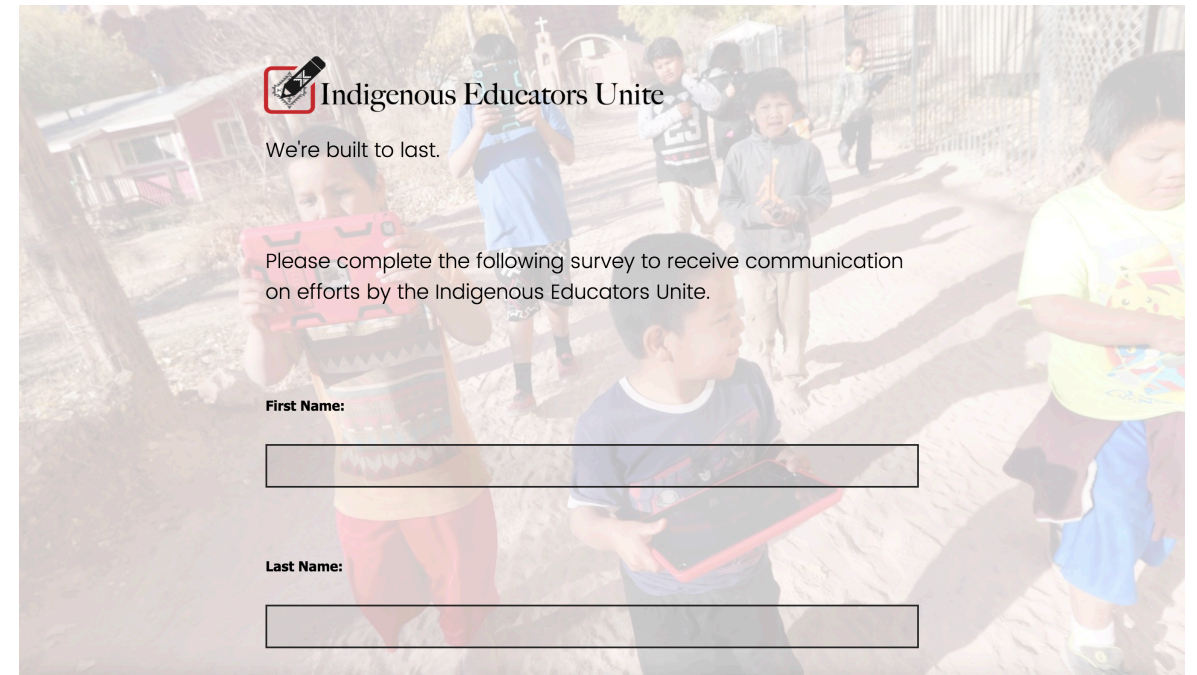



Indigenous Educators Unite

- Established March 26, 2020 by Lynette Stant, Felisia Tagaban and Amanda Cheromiah
- We're a grassroots platform for educators that serve Indigenous student populations that focuses on promoting equity without losing sight of cultural diversity.
- <https://indigenouseducator.wixsite.com/unite>

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

- Sign up at <https://bit.ly/JoinIEU>
- We send emails about our IEU meetings.
- IEU is open to everyone!



 Indigenous Educators Unite

We're built to last.

Please complete the following survey to receive communication on efforts by the Indigenous Educators Unite.

First Name:

Last Name:



**WHEN WE GATHER, WE
LAUGH AND ENJOY EACH
OTHER'S COMPANY.**

3. Create a space in your online meetings for participants to connect. Take the time to build community!



STRATEGIES TO CONNECT PARTICIPANTS IN ONLINE SPACES

- **4. Share the expectations for the gathering:**
 - If possible, please turn on your camera.
 - Utilize the chat box! We want to know what you think throughout our meeting.
 - Be mindful of the amount of “air-time” you take up. We want to hear from multiple people.
 - Use emojis throughout the meeting.
 - Be ready to participate. We may call on you.
 - Have fun!

STRATEGIES TO CONNECT PARTICIPANTS IN ONLINE SPACES

- **5. Participants rename yourself for this meeting using this format:**
 - First Name – What you ate for breakfast – high school mascot
 - Ex: Myrhea Pancake Warrior
 - Instructions
 - Go to the bottom of your screen.
 - Click on participants.
 - Find your name on the roster.
 - Click "more."
 - Click "rename." Pro tip – you can participants also rename themselves to include the location or school they represent.
- **6. Participants – Introduce yourself in the chat box.** Include your first and last name, tribal affiliation (if any), job title, email address, what is one lesson your elementary school teacher(s) taught you?

STRATEGIES TO CONNECT PARTICIPANTS IN ONLINE SPACES

- **7. Use breakout rooms to build community.**
 - Instructions
 - Based on the number of participants, create breakout rooms so that two participants are in one break out room.
 - Introduce yourself.
 - Share a few things you've learned during quarantine.
 - What is your hope for Indigenous students?
 - After four or so minutes, the host will randomize the breakout rooms and each participant will greet another person.
- **8. Facilitators, individually call on participants to introduce themselves.** Calling on participants throughout the meeting can help with audience participation.

STRATEGIES TO CONNECT PARTICIPANTS IN ONLINE SPACES

- **9. Fun t-shirt activity**
 - Have themed meetings. For example, beforehand, ask participants to wear a fun or meaningful shirt.
 - During the meeting, ask participants to share about their shirt.
- **10. What is your weather today? Check-in activity**
 - Ask participants to describe their day in terms of weather patterns. Ex: sunny, partly cloudy, thunderstorms, tornado, hurricane, rainy, foggy, etc.
 - Ask participants to explain their “weather.”
 - This is an alternative way to ask, “How are you?”



YOUR SURROUNDINGS TELL A STORY ABOUT YOU.

11. We are in various learning spaces. Ask participants to pick an object near them and describe the meaning of the object.



OUR VOICES ARE POWERFUL. PAUSE FOR REFLECTION OR CHECK FOR UNDERSTANDING.

12. Be intentional in integrating check-ins to ensure your participants are comprehending the content. Have participants literally raise their hands.



PROCLAIM THE NARRATIVES OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE!

13. Consistently share the narratives of Indigenous people and communities. Use photos or videos to enhance the narratives.

WE HONOR OUR ANCESTORS THROUGH OUR STORIES.

14. SHARE YOUR STORY



15. SHARE OUR STUDENTS' STORIES



16. SHARE OUR COMMUNITIES' STORIES



17. CREATE A COLLECTIVE STATEMENT



Indigenous Educators Unite

A message for Our Indigenous students – April 15, 2020

During this time, we want you to know that WE SEE YOU. We are with you, supporting you, thinking of you, and still dreaming BIG with you! We know you are STRONG & RESILIENT OVERCOMERS!

During this time, know that you are not alone. So much is unknown right now, but what we do know and can control is how we react and respond. Choose to stay positive, choose to remain hopeful, and ask for what you need, whether that is support, help, or encouragement from family, friends, and teachers.

You do matter; you are loved; you are important; your presence on this earth is treasured. Our traditional knowledge and medicine makes you strong and will heal you and heal us. We need each one of you; you make a difference!

In light of this time, let us stay resilient, let us remain strong. Remember who you are and where you come from.

Be patient with this process and be mindful that other people's fears and insecurities could be the same as yours. Even though we are apart, remember to stay in touch with those around you when you can, because we need each other, especially during this time.

Although this time confines you, it does not define you. You have inherited an enduring, resilient ancestral community. This generation of Native youth is the strongest yet.

Always be proud of your accomplishments and your hardships that have shaped your journey. This moment is the beginning of your story and want you to be successful. Your story does not end here.

Your ancestors are with you and proud of you in continuing your education! Continue to give your best during this time of uncertainty because you are enough. In times of change, know that you are your ancestors' biggest dreams! It is a responsibility to continue your education for the future. Your teachers and educators are working for you, even if you cannot see us!

We want you to be grateful for what you have. Don't take things for granted. Lastly, take advantage of all the educational opportunities that are available to you right now.

To all our students: we hear you, and we have heard from many students; however, you are not alone. It's great that you are getting ready to graduate and are moving onto the next stage of your life. Those of you who are experiencing hardships, we are going to make it through this. We love you, and we are praying for you. To those who may be experiencing domestic violence at home, seek help through domestic violence support centers.

We encourage you to use our Indigenous Languages and Cultures as a source of guidance and inspiration. Continue to have and show compassion and empathy for yourselves, for one another, and for your communities. We encourage you to believe that you will continue to succeed on your path towards advancing your education. And remember to take it one day at a time.

In the end, we miss you, we are PROUD OF YOU and we are thinking of you. Parents and family members, we are thankful for all of your hard work, your dedication, and your patience as we move forward and progress together. To our educators, just know that you are not alone in this fight.

- Before the meeting, creating a shareable Google Doc.
- Give participants a prompt. Share the Google Doc link with participants.
 - Ex: Have your group write three encouraging sentences to Indigenous students,
- Use breakout rooms to create small groups.
- By the end, there should be a collective statement on the Google Doc.



30 SECOND BREAK — LOOK AWAY FROM THE SCREEN

18. Integrate health breaks throughout your meeting.



CHAT BOX: IT'S A GOOD DAY TO BE INDIGENOUS BECAUSE_____.

19. Use the chat box to have participants fill in the blank.