

Biboon 2015

Wiindamaage

**LLTC Attends White House
College Opportunity Day**

**2nd Annual CL-B
Elementary Outreach Event**



**Alumni Leslie Harper
Named Top 25 of 25**

**BNSF Contributes
to Library Campaign**



Leech Lake Tribal College provides quality higher education grounded in Anishinaabe values.

www.lltc.edu • (218) 335-4200 • 6945 Little Wolf Rd NW • Cass Lake, MN

President's Message

Boozhoo. Welcome to Spring Semester 2015 at Leech Lake Tribal College. To all you students, I am delighted you are here. You have picked a wonderful college to attend. In



addition to top notch faculty teaching totally accredited classes and courses, we have some remarkable staff that go way out of their way to make sure students get the most out of their stay at Leech Lake Tribal College. If you have a problem or need assistance, please ask for help. We are here to serve.

Our new Library opens in late January. It is a state of the art building that is open to our faculty, staff, students and to the general public. A “Grand Opening Ceremony” for the new Library will be sometime in March. Announcements will be made so all can attend. The Library is a beautiful addition to this awesome college.

This summer you will be seeing some gardens being planted with many types of vegetables and fruits. We plan to offer classes to the public on how to plant and care for your own gardens. Fresh vegetables and fruit are simply the best. You can save a lot of money by planting and harvesting your own food versus buying everything from a store.

This past December (2014), Leech Lake Tribal College was invited to the “College Opportunity Summit” in Washington, DC. The Summit was hosted by President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama. Leech Lake Tribal College was the only tribal college in the country invited to the Summit and it was a privilege to attend. Leech Lake Tribal College was invited because we have come to the attention of Washington officials for the work we are doing serving underrepresented students. Based on the history, language, culture and traditions of the Anishinaabeg, we offer Ojibwe language and history classes, provide lunches to everyone at the college each Monday, have regular pipe ceremonies, have sweat lodge ceremonies close by, facilitate Big Drum Ceremonies at the college, and feast our drum every fall and spring. Our student retention rates have increased from 31% two years ago to 54% today. These are all signs of a college doing great things.

Spring Semester always starts off cold outside but always ends up warm. While we are all enduring the winter, I totally understand the stress of studying, taking tests, taking care of children, paying bills and so forth. My best recommendation is to simply embrace every day that you are here. There will be challenges ahead, but we are all up against something. Finishing what you came here to do will be one of the most gratifying things you will ever do. Your life will be brighter and filled with many more opportunities when you leave this institution as a college graduate.

Respectfully,
Don Day, President

LLTC Attends White House

College Opportunity Day of Action

Leech Lake Tribal College President Dr. Donald Day joined President Obama, the First Lady, and Vice President Biden along with hundreds of college presidents and other higher education leaders to announce new actions to help more students prepare for and graduate from college.



The White House College Opportunity Day of Action helps to support the President's commitment to partner with colleges and universities, business leaders, and nonprofits to support students across the country to help our nation reach its goal of leading the world in college attainment.

In 2011, the Minnesota Education Nation Consortium was created between Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians and the White Earth Band of Ojibwe. The consortium later included Fond du Lac Band of Ojibwe. With each nation maintaining the charter of a designated TCCU (Tribally Controlled College and University) the intent of the Minnesota Tribal College consortium was to work together to make the following educational improvements: the crucial and urgent issue of Ojibwe language preservation, mutually agreed upon grants partnering and grant endorsements, and mutually beneficial advocacy efforts. The Tribal Colleges will collaborate with each other using best practices in the following areas to increase college graduation rates by 20% in 5 years (2020).

- Improve student retention & graduation rates;
- Expand transfer opportunities;
- Share academic resources & programs;
- Increase access through technology infused education;
- Impact the economic development of Tribal communities; and
- Work to preserve Ojibwe language & culture.

“Leech Lake Tribal College was honored to participate in the College Opportunity Day of Action hosted by President Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama. We represent a strong consortium of Tribal Colleges in Minnesota that are committed to increasing access and college opportunities to rural Tribal communities” states, Dr. Donald Day, President of Leech Lake Tribal College. “We recognize our mission is to not only provide educational opportunities rooted in Anishinaabe values and culture but to increase the number of college graduates as a measure of economic growth and workforce impact.”



The participants were asked to commit to new action in one of four areas: building networks of colleges around promoting completion, creating K-16 partnerships around college readiness, investing in high school counselors as part of the First Lady's Reach Higher initiative, and increasing the number of college graduates in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

President Obama will announce new steps on how his Administration is helping to support these actions, including announcing \$10 million to help promote college completion and a \$30 million AmeriCorps program that will improve low-income students' access to college. The event is the second College Opportunity Day of Action, and will include a progress

report on the commitments made at the first day of action on January 14, 2014.

Expanding opportunity for more students to enroll and succeed in college, especially low-income and underrepresented students, is vital to building a strong economy and a strong middle class. Only 9 percent of those born in the lowest family income quartile attain a bachelor's degree by age 25, compared to 54 percent in the top quartile. In an effort to expand college access, the Obama Administration has increased Pell scholarships by \$1,000 a year, created the new American Opportunity Tax Credit worth up to \$10,000 over four years of college, limited student loan payments to 10 percent of income, and laid out an ambitious agenda to reduce college costs and promote innovation and competition.

Give to the MAX Day was a Huge Success!!



1st Annual Gaawitaasiban Hand Drum Contest

MN Give to the Max Day is a day of state wide philanthropy that helps organizations such as LLTC to help bridge the gap in funding.

Last year the day raised \$17 million dollars for MN Non-profits and schools. LLTC set an aggressive goal this year of outraising last year’s total by 8 times over. The 24 hour day of giving, started off with a boxed lunch sale that the Advancement Team delivered to various locations around Cass Lake and ended with a fundraiser dinner that featured the 1st Annual Gaawitaasiban Hand Drum Contest and a raffle.

Although we did not hit our goal of \$10,000, the day of the event, contributions that came in the following weeks pushed us over the goal! The goal of the college is to increase fundraising opportunities and we hope we can count on the contributions of friends of the college like yourself in the future.

To make a contribution please visit www.lltc.edu/donate to learn more about the different types of gifts and how you can make a gift—and make a difference in the lives of our students. If you have any questions please feel free to stop on campus or to contact the Advancement Office at 218-335-4262 or bill.blackwell@lltc.edu.

LLTC would like to give a huge mii gwetch to The Che We Express, Terri Kay Catering, Leech Lake Gaming, and The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe and everyone else who came and helped make the day a success!

Basketball – 2nd Annual Outreach



One of the advantages of entering the second year of existence for the Leech Lake Tribal College Basketball Teams is creating traditions.

In September the Lakers held their 1st Annual Youth Basketball Tournament and recently held the 2nd Annual Laker “When not If” Event. The goal of the program is to begin to shift the mind set of students away from the mentality of “If” I

am going on to higher education , to “When” I go on to higher education. The joint venture formed with The Cass Lake-Bena Elementary staff and LLTC staff allows students at the Elementary Schools the opportunity to see people from their community who are choosing Higher Education. This year’s event focused on hands on activities as the students worked with Laker Basketball players. The message to the students was very clear it takes discipline and attendance, in school, grades and sports. “It was great to be back at CL-B Elementary,” said Men’s Head Coach and CL-B alumni Brady Fairbanks. “It was great to see the excitement on kid’s faces as soon as they walked in the gym. They recognized a lot of our players from last year and had a lot of great questions.” Last year the students were given Laker trading cards that were autographed by players, but this year the Lakes had a special surprise. “We are going to be sending the cards home in the kids Tuesday packets with a

Laker Participants:

Danielle Staples – CL-B 10	Kyle Raisch – CL-B 01	Sonny Sylvester – Kildonan E 13
Sam Rambeau – Fernly 09	Taylor Burns – Bemidji 13	Sam Larsen – E. Central 12
Joe Fowler – CL-B 09	Josh LaDuke – CL-B 14	Mariah O’Brien 13
Challenge Johnson – RL	Brandon Masten – CL-B 03	Josh Red Day – Blackduck 10
Karmen Fairbanks – CL-B 09		

pass to get into the December 13th game to come watch the Lakers Woman and Men play” said Head Woman’s Coach and CL-B Alumni Mike Reyes. “The kids can bring their cards autographed by players at the game.” Staff from both schools agreed that the event was again a success.

1st Annual LLTC Youth Basketball Tournament

September 20, 2014 at the Cass Lake-Bena Schools

The Tournament was played using a 3 on 3 format, with divisions for grades 3-4, 5-6, 7-9, and 10-12. 15 teams participated, some from right here in Leech Lake and a team from as far away as Red Cliff, WI.

Winners were each awarded a trophy and free admission to all LLTC Home Basketball games this season. “We wanted to have a pre-season tournament that engaged our youth and served as kick-off to our season.” said Men’s Head Coach and reigning Coach of the Year Brady Fairbanks. “We really want our players to give back to our community, and understand the responsibility that being a member of our team carries. A majority of our team is from Cass Lake and we want kids to see people from their community having opportunities to pursue higher education.” The Lakers begin their second season when they play November 1st and 2nd in Wahpeton, ND. Coming off a 3rd place finish for the Lady Lakers and a Conference Title for the Men, both teams return a majority of last year’s players. “As a team we have high expectations for the season. We really

scheduled a tough non-conference part of our season to get us ready for conference play.” said Fairbanks.

First Place Finishers Included:

3rd – 4th Grade Co-Ed Red Lake Warriors
5th-6th Grade Co-Ed Leech Lakers
7th-9th Girls Division ABM
7th-9th Boys Division Ball Up
10th-12th Boys Cass Lake Panthers



Students Tour Potlatch Lumber Mill

Students in the Gikenimindwaa Mitigoog Program at LLTC visited the Potlatch Lumber Mill just west of Cass Lake on Monday, November 3, 2014.

The tour is a regular part of the Introduction to Forestry course. After sitting down with plant manager Pete Aube for a 30 minute question answer session, the class was given an up close look at how a log becomes a 2 x 4. “Potlatch was all new and exciting for me because I personally never got the chance to see how lumber is actually created,” said Sam Wilson, a Forest Resources major. Royal Rock, another student in Forest Resources was surprised by the efficiency of the plant. “What I thought was very cool is how they don’t waste any portion of the logs that are brought in there. Everything gets used. I always thought they just took what they wanted and let the rest go to waste.” Challenge Johnson and LeAnn Charwood were also part of the class.



“Potlatch was all new and exciting for me... to see how lumber is actually created.”
– Sam Wilson, Forest Resources Student

Pictured Left to Right: Potlatch Employee, Sam Wilson, Royal Rock, Challenge Johnson and LeAnn Charwood

Watershed Workshop

Students in the Freshwater Studies class at LLTC had the opportunity to participate in a Watershed Education Program facilitated by the University of Minnesota Watershed Education Program, and hosted at Northern Lights Casino in Walker, Minnesota on Tuesday, October 28, 2014.

The evening workshop included land owners, county staff, township officials and LLBO Department of Resource Management personnel. Matt Frazer, Sheila Northbird and Allison Good Shield joined the other participants in learning about land use decisions and their impact on clean water, with a focus on the Leech Lake River Watershed. A learning tool, called the Watershed Game, was used to assist participants in understanding how different land uses, and varying tools like planted buffer zones along river banks, can reduce pollution into our waterways.



← all three students with the watershed game



Matt Frazer participating in the watershed game ↓

Commercial Tobacco Free

LLTC makes strides towards a healthier campus through commercial tobacco-free policy.

This August, Leech Lake Tribal College became the first tribal college in Minnesota (and one of fewer than 300 college campuses nationwide) to implement a uniquely comprehensive commercial tobacco-free policy.

Commercial tobacco has been proven to have a significantly negative impact on the health and wellbeing of those who use, as well as those who are involved secondhand. With this in mind, Leech Lake Tribal College designed a policy that included smokeless tobacco and electronic cigarettes.



cessation. With the support of ClearWay Minnesota and Blue Cross Blue Shield MN students and staff were able to take part in numerous health and wellness activities that had a direct effect on the policy’s success this school year.

Much of the success of the policy can be summed up by current student, Michelle Marion. I was a smoker, then quit when I was pregnant.

My child is now 20 months old and...I think if the tobacco-free initiative were not in place I’d be inclined to smoke here. It would be inviting to light-up when others are doing the same. Thankfully it’s not! If smoking was allowed on campus, I would probably be a smoker again.

While the provision of quality higher education grounded in Anishinaabe values remains the mission of Leech Lake Tribal College, this initiative is one of the many positive steps supporting staff, students, visitors to campus, and most importantly our youth.

The most important aspect of this policy is that it supports the traditional uses of asemaa (tobacco) on the campus grounds of Leech Lake Tribal College. Leech Lake Tribal College will continue to honor traditional customs of the Anishinaabeg while also acknowledging the vast differences between asemaa and commercial tobacco.

One portion of the initiative was a campus-wide logo/art design contest, with the winning selection prominently placed on signage throughout the campus (pictured). The signs remind all who visit the campus of the new policy in an artistic way that is unique to the school.

Leech Lake Tribal College made a commitment in 2013 to provide prevention education and commercial tobacco



BNSF Railway Donates \$25,000 to LLTC Library

The Town of Cass Lake has a long history with railroads, at the turn of the last century Cass Lake, was home to one of the largest rail yards in Northern Minnesota. The familiar rumble of freight cars can still be heard in town today and The Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) office is still a fixture on Railroad Street. BNSF’s storied tradition began in 1849 from humble beginnings and today BNSF helps move Minnesota products around the country and the world. BNSF strives to maintain strong relationships with communities.

The BNSF Railway Foundation recently made a generous \$25,000 commitment to The Leech Lake Tribal College Library Campaign. BNSF Representative Amy Mcbeth spoke about the commitment, “The BNSF Railway Foundation is dedicated to supporting the communities we serve and in which our employees live, work, and volunteer. The Foundation is proud of BNSF’s more than 50-year tradition of commitment to higher education through its scholarship opportunities and support for public and private institutions primarily at the college level to help improve the quality of education.” The which is getting close to completion, will have its Grand Opening on March 7th. “The Library Campaign has had so many outstanding organizations and individual make commitments to ensure this project is a success for the school and our community.” said Director of Institutional Advancement Bill Blackwell Jr. “BNSF really showed their commitment with this generous contribution, and we greatly appreciate their faith in the vision we have for LLTC’s future.” Once the Library does open, community members are welcome to use the Library and all of its resources free of charge, at any time. Amy Mcbeth echoed that sentiment, “We are proud to support the Leech Lake Tribal College Library and Learning Center, which will be a central resource for the College and the community.”

“BNSF really showed their commitment with this generous contribution, and we greatly appreciate their faith in the vision we have for LLTC’s future.”

– Bill Blackwell Jr., Director of Institutional Advancement



“We are proud to support the Leech Lake Tribal College Library and Learning Center, which will be a central resource for the College and the community.”

– Amy Mcbeth, BNSF Representative



Alumni Spotlight: Leslie Harper

The Tribal College Journal is a magazine published by the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC). The magazine was established in 1989. AIHEC tribal college presidents resolved on November 14, 1989 to support the magazine and gave it editorial independence as opposed to a typical in-house publication. It is a forum for tribal college administrators, faculty, staff, and students, providing discussion for their needs, successes, and evolving missions.

This year marked the 25th year of the Tribal College Journal, to celebrate the Tribal College Journal asked the tribal colleges and universities to nominate 25 alumni. 2006 Leech Lake Tribal College graduate Leslie Harper, was honored as one of the twenty-five. Leslie earned her A.A. degree from Leech Lake Tribal College before going on to the Native American Educational Services College in Chicago for her B.A. in public policy. She is a founder and the director of Niigaane Ojibwemowin Immersion School, the K–6 Ojibwe language immersion school on the Leech Lake Indian Reservation.

The school was featured in the public television documentary, First Speakers: Restoring the Ojibwe Language, which won a Midwest Regional Emmy Award. Harper was honored in 2012 as the Minnesota Indian Education Administrator of the Year. That’s a remarkable career arc, but it wasn’t always easy. “I had been out of school for eight years – I was 25 when I enrolled at Leech Lake Tribal College,” says Harper. “I was tired of working low-paying retail jobs, things that I just didn’t have a passion for, things that weren’t making a difference.” Leslie remembers being very intimidated by the prospect of enrolling in college. “My parents each had a little bit of college, but I really didn’t have anyone to guide me. I didn’t understand the financial aid system, didn’t know what classes I needed to take. It was scary.” Like so many alumni, Leslie credits the welcoming, supportive atmosphere of Leech Lake Tribal College for giving her the confidence to enroll and succeed. Congratulations to Leslie on this amazing honor.



Leslie Harper, 2006 Leech Lake Tribal College graduate, was honored as one of 25 alumni from the Tribal College Journal.

Congratulations to Leslie on this amazing honor!

“Mii apii ji-iskigamizigewaad Anishinaabeg”

Aabiding makwa gii’ taawane ani-goshkozid. Gii’ kikendaan ani-ziigwaninig. Gii’minwendaan ani-ziigwang iskigamizigewaad apane anishinaabeg. Gii’kapii noopiming imaa gii’waakaa’igewaad oshkii-waakaa’igan. Owii’waabamaan maadaagamizigewaad wezhitoowaad. Ogi’kabikaan owaakaa’iganiwaan eyaawaad ininaatigoog. Anibimosed imaa mazhi-magwadininig nibi. “Aaniin ezhi-eyaamagak onibi?” Gii’ ikido Makwa.

Gii’inaabid idi ishpiming aw Ajidamoo. Makwa gii’ ikido, “Heh Ajidamoo! Aaniin ezhi-eyaamagak

onibi?” “Amanj iidog, apane maazhi-magwad. Gaawiin niminikwaadanziin. Inga’ zhaabosh-kaawigon.”

Gii’kagwejim Makwa, “mii na awe widooshkii oshkii-waakaa’iganiwaan wenji-izhimaagwak?” Ajidamoo gii’ikido, “Gii’waanikewag imaa, ogii’ ishkwa-aabajitoonaawaan miizii-wigamig. Mii apii gaa-ani maazhi-maagwak nibi.””Oonhh mii na? Begizh ina maazhi-ayaasiigwaa omaa eyaawaad.”

Gii’daawag waakaa’iganing l’iw, gii’ayaa gwiiwi-

izens, Joe ezhinikaazod. Ogi’ igoon ogiti-ziimaaganag ji-odaminosid imaa nibikaang. Bigoshkaamagak ji-na’ichigaadeg.

Joe ani-zaaga’ang ogii’waabamaan ini makwan ganawaabandaminid nibi! Gego anokiimaga-sinok enimashkiigwan zinikobii ginigaadeg nibi.” Gii’pakobii aw Makwa.

Aapaji’ giminwendam gwiiwiizens-na’ichigaadenig onibimiwaan ji-miniwesii go gaye awesiiyag. Mii inakeyaa ganawendamowaad anishinaabeg gegoo.

“The time when Anishinaabeg tap Maple trees”

One day Makwa yawned as he awoke up from a long sleep, he knew spring was coming. He liked spring because the Anishinaabe always tapped the maple trees.

He walked to the edge of the woods where the Anishinaabe had built a new house. He wanted to see if the Anishinaabe were preparing to tap the trees yet. He walked passed their house to the other side of the woods where the maple trees were at. As he walked by the house, the Anishinaabe had built he walked through some stinky water. “What is wrong with this water?” he thought to himself.

Makwa looked up and saw Ajidamoo there, and he said, “hey Ajidamoo! What is wrong with this water here?” Ajidamoo said, “I don’t know, it always smells bad to me. I don’t drink it, it will make me sick.” he said.

Makwa asked, “Is it because of this new home the Anishinaabe have?” Ajidamoo said. “Well they dug a huge hole in the ground there, then they stopped going to the outhouse. That’s when the water came and when it smelled bad.” “Oh I see,” said Makwa. “I hope it doesn’t bring a sickness to the people here, in this place.”

The Anishinaabe family that lived in that house, they had a young Boy. Joe was his name. Joe’s Mom and Dad had told him not to play in the water. That something broke because it was not taken care of and they needed to fix it.

Joe went outside and he saw Makwa looking at that water there on the ground. Joe said “hey, don’t be there by that water, don’t drink that water. Something is broken. My Mom and Dad forgot to take care of part of the house and now that water there is not healthy. The earth needs to clean that water to make it good.” Makwa ran off into the woods.

Joe was happy the animals and the water were being taken care of. That’s how anishinaabeg take care of things.



9th Annual LLTC Golf Classic

Longbow Golf Club in Walker hosted the 9th Annual Leech Lake Tribal College Golf Classic on June 27th. The event proceeds went to support the Benny Tonce scholarship and the LLTC Laker Athletic Programs.

After the passing of our good friend, mentor, and teacher Benny Tonce, a scholarship was named after him. Benny was a huge asset to Leech Lake Tribal College, not only for his knowledge of the language and culture, but for the way he carried himself and spoke of others. Benny was with the College since its humble beginnings in 1990 and was a dedicated mentor and teacher until the day he left us in physical form. The inaugural season of Laker Athletics was a memorable one. The Lady Lakers finished 3rd in the Conference and the Men won the Regular Season Championship. Both teams placed three players on the All-Conference Teams, while the Men took home Player of the Year and Coach of the Year. 36 teams competed this year with the Red Lake Nation College

Team taking first prize in the Men's Division, while the Team of Larry Aitken, Athena Aitken, Del Gangelhoff and Bruce Simonsen won the mixed flight. This year's Golf Classic raised over \$21,000 for the college and a great time was had by everyone. Leech Lake Tribal College would like to extend a special mii gwetch to The Leech Lake Band, Leech Lake Gaming, Marco, Konami, Global Cash, The Meyer Group, and Che We Express for their support. On behalf of everyone at LLTC we would also like to thank all the local businesses who contributed, and everyone who came out to play and support The Leech Lake Tribal College. We'll see you all again next year!

"The Great Hurt"

This past Fall Semester, Leech Lake Tribal College collaborated with St. Scholastica College to offer a unique course based on the Boarding School Era.

Written by Carl Gawboy (Bois Forte Band), "The Great Hurt" script is composed of historical narrative from people directly involved with and influenced by boarding schools. The consequences today of the Indian Boarding School era are presented in, and stimulated by, this production. The course mix of LLTC Students, St. Scholastica Students, and Community Members made for a great exchange of information and accounts of personal family experience. A student commented on the experience. "The entire presentation was new to me. Coming from a public school, I wasn't taught about the boarding schools. I am so amazed by this new history lesson I was given and humbled by the experience."

Participants of the class gained a deeper awareness of the challenges faced by Indian parents; the high American Indian dropout rate; virtual destructions of native languages; high rates of unemployment, suicide, and alcoholism; and other social and political struggles among American Indian/Alaska Natives that can be traced to the effects of boarding schools. Students enrolled in the class for credit, were expected to prepare for and participate in the public presentation of "The Great Hurt" that took place at The

Cass Lake-Bena High School. The presentation was open to the public and included a feast after provided by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota. Participants repeatedly spoke about the importance of sharing information to facilitate the healing process. The underlying message is that stories are powerful and need to be told. They talked about one very important issue that was brought up many times was the importance of teaching and learning the Ojibwe language, which has been lost in large part due to the boarding schools. One student echoed that feeling, "My grandpa went to boarding school. I didn't know that until I was at least in high school. He became an alcoholic. He sobered up when I was born. He's a fluent Ojibwe speaker. He didn't teach any of us, though. One way we're trying to get over historical trauma in my family is my sons are speaking Ojibwe."

Mii gwetch to all the participants of the class, Carl Gawboy, St. Scholastica, Staff and Faculty of Leech Lake Tribal College and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota for all of their support.



It is not uncommon to see students on campus prior to the start of any semester, most are checking schedules, buying books, or just getting a feel for the campus. This August, however students were here to participate in the second Jump Start cohort. Jump start, named for how the course infuses multiple strategies to Jump Start a students learning, has been a great success in the first two years.

The course combines the pre-existing 1 credit Path to Success class with freshman seminars, time management, and budgeting strategies. The class structure is a new trend in developmental education. “The class really gives students an opportunity to meet other students and learn some skills that they can take with them to be successful as a college student” said Nando-Gikenjige Wigamig (The Learning Center) Director Stacie Lyon. In addition to allowing students to develop relationships within the cohort, the students learned skills that will greatly benefit them in their educational journeys. This year’s class also featured an alumni of the Jump Start program, Danielle Staples, to assist students and give them someone to relate to who has been through some of the challenges they will face. The course also utilized other faculty and staff to give students the best experience possible. “We had our Business Instructor teach the Money Budgeting section.” said Lyon. “It gave the students different perspectives, and allowed them the chance to meet some of the faculty. The cohort had fourteen students and finished with a 100% completion rate.

“The class really gives students an opportunity to meet other students and learn some skills that they can take with them to be successful as a college student.”

– Stacie Lyon, Nando-Gikenjige Wigamig
(The Learning Center) Director



2014 Jump Start Class

New Faces at LLTC

The Leech Lake Tribal College would like to welcome the following new employees to the LLTC Team.



Devin Bates
Dean of Student Services



Jeremy Chase
Admissions and
Outreach Coordinator



Megan Chase
Print and Design Specialist



Matt Hanson
Wellness Center Director



Eric Kuha
IT Instructor

Ojibwemotaadidaa miinawaa Endaso-niiyo-giizhigak!

The Leech Lake Tribal College provides quality higher education grounded in Anishinaabe values. Those values begin with our language. Thursdays at noon have become home to an increasingly popular event on campus, Ojibwemowin Immersion lunches. Faculty, staff, students and community members have come together to partake

in activities and play games immersed in the Ojibwe language. The events are open to anyone who would like to come learn more about Ojibwemowin or strengthen your language skills in a fun setting.



Thursdays at noon have become home to an increasingly popular event on campus, Ojibwemowin Immersion lunches.



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Supporting Student Success

Support from friends of the college like YOU makes a difference in the lives of our students like Bonita Goggleye. Bonita is the first recipient of the LeRoy Staples Sr. and LeRoy B. Fairbanks Scholarship. Wiindamaage spent a few minutes with Bonita learning more about the impact the scholarship has had on her.

Wiindamaage – What has this Scholarship meant to you?

Bonita - Being the first recipient of this scholarship has meant a lot to me. I never thought I would've had the chance to receive ANY type of scholarships. When I was chosen for this scholarship, I was excited, I was also afraid because I thought I was going to have to do a speech after the college called and asked me to be at the graduation ceremony to accept it. Only because I haven't done public speaking, YET!



*Bonita Goggleye receiving the LeRoy Staples Sr.
and LeRoy B. Fairbanks Scholarship*

W – What degree program are you in?

BG - Business Management and I am going to apply to do my Liberal Education as well. So I will be graduating with two degrees, hopefully by Spring Semester of 2016.

W - What has motivated you to get your degree?

BG - I chose to go back to school after failing college twice (Bemidji State University 2005 and Lake Superior College 2006). It took me 5 years to repay over \$6000 in students loans, and I was very hesitant to "go back to school". I am very glad that I choose to restart my life at LLTC, this has been the best

experience of my life so far. Its also been the best decision (education wise) I have ever made! This college is a very comfortable place to be, it has an at home atmosphere. I wanted to go back and earn a degree so that I can show my children/nieces that college is important because I push and push them to go to school every day and get good grades. I always remind them and tell them education is important. So with that being said, If I could be 16 and pregnant, single mom at 17 and graduate High School at 18, and return

to college 15 years later and get a 4.0 GPA anything is possible, you just have to have the dedication and motivation to excel and make a better life for your an your family!! The Learning possibilities are endless!!

W – What would you tell someone who is thinking of contributing to Leech Lake Tribal College?

BG - Donating to LLTC could change a student's life. A lot of students attending seem to come from low-income families, and scholarships do wonders for students old and new! Scholarships help students succeed. When I received a letter/email stating that I was awarded a scholarship it built my confidence and really motivates me to get good grades!

To support students like Bonita:

- » Go to www.lltc.edu/donate
- » Contact the Advancement Office at 218-335-4262
- » Email bill.blackwell@lltc.edu

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