

BRAD TAYLOR

Information Coordinator

920.492.2905 ext. 1017

E-mail: btaylor@ashwaubenon.k12.wi.us



MEDIA RELEASE

For More Information, Contact:

Kathleen Kowalczyk, Art Teacher

Pioneer Elementary School

920-492-2925 Ext. 6131

kkowalczyk@ashwaubenon.k12.wi.us

Pioneer Elementary To Learn Oneida Culture Through ‘Planting Seeds Of Knowledge’ Grants

Ashwaubenon, WI - February 9, 2010 - Ashwaubenon’s Pioneer Elementary School has been awarded two ‘Planting Seeds of Knowledge’ grants to host artist residency workshops this month. The grants will be used to teach all Pioneer students, grades one through five, the Oneida Native American culture.

On February 11th and 16th, Tina Cottrell will present stories and dance of the Iroquois people to first and second grade students. Ms. Cottrell will transform from her street clothes to her traditional regalia, describing the different parts of her outfit, including its design and bead work. She will use personal experiences and Iroquois stories to talk about the history of the Smoke Dance and native culture.

On February 26th, Nicole Brooks will present Iroquois Social Dance to third, fourth and fifth graders. Students will see the traditional clothing of the Haudenosaunee along with a demonstration of songs and dance steps to a variety of earth songs. This presentation will be interactive since the students and teachers will participate in the dances.

In conjunction with both presentations, Pioneer art teacher Kathleen Kowalczyk will enhance the students’ cultural awareness with art activities inspired by the Oneida culture. Traditional cornhusk dolls and dreamcatchers, art forms Mrs. Kowalczyk learned from Ashwaubenon School District Native American Coordinator Justine Souto, will be featured.

‘Planting Seeds of Knowledge’ is a grant program for schools and community groups to work with qualified Native American artists in interactive and engaging residencies, workshops and performances. The artists are trained to work in educational settings with teachers and students, integrating curriculum, creativity, and culture. Funding for these grants is made possible by a grant from the Wisconsin Arts Board and the Oneida Arts Program.

For more information, please contact Kathleen Kowalczyk, Pioneer Elementary School Art Teacher, at 920-492-2925, extension 6131 or kkowalczyk@ashwaubenon.k12.wi.us.

###

[End of media release]