Walthill Schools - Invitation Letter

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Hi Ms. Ostrand,

Here are some other things that have a more K-12 focus; this was the first set of ideas I had and may be for fitting for our meeting to pursue. I’ll call you at 3PM today.

Hank Lehrer
A Nebraska Space Grant /EPSCoR Aeronautics Initiative:
An Articulation Model with Tribal Schools

prepared for
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by
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There are three components to this effort; these three components include the tribal K-12 programs, the tribal colleges, and an articulation agreement between the aeronautics program at the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) and the Nebraska tribal colleges.

K-12 Program Highlights:

I Tie-in the NASA and FAA Teacher Resource Centers to tribal K-12 centers

I Offer high school curriculum units and career exploration units, as well as visiting teachers/professors developed by the Nebraska Space Grant Consortium, to tribal schools

I Provide special scholarships to the Aviation Career Education (ACE) Academy

I Assist in the establishment of summer high school internships

Tribal Colleges Thrust:

I Enhance the existing Metropolitan Community College Native American focus and connection to Nebraska tribal colleges

I Provide curriculum assistance in establishing aeronautics course work

I Establish a minority student transfer program and support group focusing on Native American students and mentored by students as well as faculty.

I Provide Internet and World Wide Web (WWW) services to tribal colleges

Co-operative Effort:

I Enroll transfer students in a Minor under the established Native American Studies Program at UNO; provide a strong support network for those enrolled.
I Encourage enrollment in upper-division aeronautics courses for native American transfer students

I Utilize current Space Grant researcher with tribal college ties, Dr. Peter Suzuki, to expand UNO Native American programs

I Use Space Grant researchers to assist faculty members at the tribal colleges to engage in aeronautics research efforts by providing:

# Proposal writing assistance
# Leadership for research teams
# Opportunities for co-investigation
# Service as consultants
# Communication of NASA sponsored faculty development programs

Continuing Strategic Goals

I Continue the initiatives above but with a focus to involve other state Space Grant programs and as a regional Space Grant project

I Strive to develop an interstate, co-operative focus in aeronautics.

I Explore new special funding opportunities with a minority focus

I Expand the current Nebraska EPSCoR grant proposal to include the addition of a national model program of best practices

I Continue to explore innovative ways to respond to NASA initiatives and the recent Executive Order for more Native American educational and employment opportunities

I Develop an aviation database which includes statistical information on the representation of Native Americans in the aviation industry and in the federal, state, and local aviation regulatory structure

I Involve the Nebraska Space Grant Consortium affiliate, the Nebraska Department of Aeronautics, in support of these goals

I Assist NASA Headquarters in developing closer ties with the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC)