



# 2013-2014 Annual Report

## Na-way-ee, Center School, Inc.

**Our Mission:** Providing transformative education, grounded in indigenous life-ways and love of learning.

**Our Vision:** Center School will exemplify excellence in indigenous education.

K N O W L E D G E | R E S P E C T | C O U R A G E | G E N E R O S I T Y

## Letter from the Executive Director

### HELLO MY RELATIVES,

Nawayee Center School has never been a better learning place than it is today.

This is not only because we are successfully educating our children, but because we honor those who have been here before us and understand that we are a part of a process that began in the early 1970s when Nawayee was established as a drop-in center for Native youth who were disaffected with public schools.

What was true then is true now. Mainstream schools have not done well with many Native youth because they have not learned how to engage them.

Establishing, nurturing and maintaining relationships are fundamental to how we educate Native youth. We realized the effort to engage with our children could be enhanced by making a similar effort to build co-creative relationships among the staff. To that end we "took the plunge" of organizational restructuring to transform the way staff work together by using a distributed leadership model. After many aches, pains, laughs and long, thoughtful conversations, we are a more cohesive staff.

During this process, our Board of Directors began creating a new strategic plan and interestingly it mirrored staff restructuring efforts so much that the staff and board arrived at the same conclusions. We mutually realized our need to trans-



Climbing one of the rock faces at Blue Mounds State Park

form, to evolve into an experientially focused place of learning.

As a result, we have developed a strong community of staff and students who look forward to traveling the path of learning together. Nawayee is a fun place to work and learn, and at the end of the day, we are all tired, but in a good way.

I know in my heart that we are fortunate to be able to come together to learn in such a place as Nawayee Center School. We do, however, need help to maintain our school community at this critical time when we are beginning to see the fruits of many years of dedication and hard work. A quality learning place such as this requires talented professionals who understand Indigenous educational pedagogy. The ebb and flow of stu-

dent populations can dramatically affect the economics of keeping such a group together when funding is related strictly to student numbers. Simply put, we have to get better every day.

I believe that there is enough good will and generosity in our community to find the resources to maintain an Indigenous learning place that really works. I remember and trust this core belief as I work with you all to find a way to continue along the path of successful education.

Know that your help, of every kind, is essential and much appreciated as we do our best to live according to our mission and see it through to the realization of our shared dream.

*Joseph C. Rice*

# Staff

Joe Rice, *Executive Director*  
 Mary Cullen, *Lead Teacher*  
 Vicki Hollow, *Office Manager*  
 Vicki Hoogheem, *Finance Manager*  
 Dennis Rice, *Security*  
 Pat Welch, *Experiential Coordinator*  
 Carol Ladd, *Family Engagement*  
 Korissa Howes, *Social Studies Teacher*  
 Cindy Ward, *Science Teacher*  
 Ed Perrault, *Math Teacher*  
 John Oakgrove, *Ojibwe Language*  
 Andrea Adams, *English Teacher*  
 Dakota Hoska, *Dakota Language*

## Collaborating Agency Supporters

### Division Of Indian Work

Louise Matson, Director

### Migizi Communications

Elaine Salinas, President

### American Indian O.I.C.

Joe Hobot, CEO

### Philadelphia Community Farms

Christina Beck

### Voyageur Outward Bound

Poppy Potter, Director of Operations

### Dream Of Wild Health

Diane Wilson, Director

### Minneapolis Public Schools

Danielle Grant, Director of Indian Education

### Welna Ace Hardware

Mark Welna, Proprietor

### Triangle Park Creative

Dan Nordley, Chief Park Ranger

### Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center

Patina Park, Director

### Urban Boat Builders

Mark Hosner, Executive Director

# Statement of Financial Position

## Assets

### Current Assets:

Cash	\$ 93,881	\$ 125,074
Accounts Receivable	1,341	—
Grants Receivable	65,000	73,000
Prepaid Expenses	7,919	8,495
Other Assets	12,569	13,379
Total Current Assets	180,710	206,569

Property and Equipment—Net

94,713 117,658

### TOTAL ASSETS

**275,423** **\$ 324,227**

## Liabilities and Net Assets

### Current Liabilities:

Accounts Payable	\$ 19,413	\$ 19,694
Funds Held for Others	30,974	43,189
Accrued Salaries and Vacation	18,228	14,902

Other Liabilities

— 3,249

### Total Current Liabilities

**92,696** **108,454**

Long-term Liabilities

Notes Payable 20,653 27,205

### Total Liabilities

**113,349** **135,659**

### Net Assets:

Unrestricted 59,574 81,346

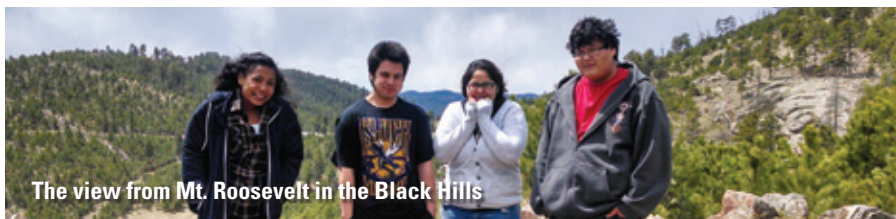
Temporarily Restricted 102,500 107,222

### Total Net Assets

**162,074** **188,568**

### TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

**\$275,423** **\$ 324,227**



# Gifts and Grants July 2012–June 2014

## Institutions

Allina Foundation  
 Community Power  
 Green Partners  
 Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches  
 Headwaters Fund of The Sacred Circle  
 Kiwanis Club of Minneapolis  
 Minneapolis Rotary Club  
 Nash Foundation  
 Still Ain't Satisfied Foundation

Shakopee Mdewakantonwon  
 Sioux Community  
 James R. Thorpe Foundation  
 Youthprise  
 Archie and Bertha Walker Walker Foundation  
 Bush Foundation  
 Beim Foundation  
 The Beverly Foundation  
 Laura Bush Foundation  
 Notah Begay III Foundation  
 Seward Co-Op

Sundance Foundation  
 Greater Twin Cities  
 United Way  
 The Administration for Native Americans

## Individuals

Shane Austvold  
 Sybil Axner  
 Ramona Beard  
 Shayna Berkowitz  
 Crystal Brakke

Katherine Coon  
 Samuel Cote  
 Margaret Cullen  
 Robert Dalbec  
 Vicki Glaeser  
 Florence Golod  
 Julie Graves  
 Wayne Grundstrom  
 Graham Hartley  
 James Hoogheem  
 Ryan Hoogheem  
 Victoria Hoogheem

Robert Mattsen  
 Joanne Mulbah  
 David Nelson  
 Joseph Rice  
 Elizabeth Runge  
 Jean Setley  
 Owen Turnlund  
 Cindy Ward  
 Rosemary Welch  
 Diane Wilson  
 Lauren Wreck



# Center School Achievements

Great things that happened during the 2013-14 school years:



Nawayee 2013 graduates



Nawayee 2014 graduates

## STUDENT SUCCESS

**Nine students graduated** – making our graduation rate 75% (of graduation-eligible seniors)

75% of students increased their overall GPAs.

We maintained a core of group about 42 students who were regular attendees (75% or higher), with four being at or above 90%.

Student enrollment has steadily increased since the advent of our experiential programming, growing from 42 students two years ago to 59 students at the end 2014 .

Our business partnership program provided students with on-the-job training through supervised internships at local businesses ranging from local coffee shops to the Minnesota Science Museum. We prepared students for internships by assisting them with resume preparation, interview training and in school pre-internships.

Nawayee Center School students participated in the Regional and State Science Fairs, where they won numerous awards

## EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

We sponsored major experiential events with and for the community. Mde Maka Ska is a one-day canoe event held at Lake Calhoun that engaged over 550 students and 60 adults from 12 area schools.

Our Administration of Native Americans (ANA)

funded experiential education program was approved for continued funding after a

very successful second year of programming that engaged students in well over the originally projected 277 experiential learning sessions.

We sponsored numerous experiential educational opportunities including a five-day trip to the Black Hills, visits to Philadelphia Community Farm in Osceola, Wisconsin, Kayaking in the Apostle Islands, Rock Climbing in Blue Mounds State Park, a trip to the Dream of Wild Health farm in Hugo, MN, A wild rice harvesting expedition on the St. Croix River and a trip to the National Indian Education Association conference in Anchorage, Alaska.

## CAPACITY BUILDING

As part of the MOA, Center School functions as a Best Practice Site with particular expertise in engaging disaffected students by implementing Indigenous educational pedagogy and we were recently awarded a two-year contract with MPS to continue our work

We have upgraded our website which greatly enhances our presence on the internet

We have begun the refurbishing of the mosaic on the front of our building (the oldest such mosaic in the city) and have further enhanced our outward appearance with fashionable new awnings which include the Dakota and Ojibwe words for Center

## ORGANIZATIONAL GROWTH

Working through PIE (Phillips Indian Educators) with Minneapolis Public Schools, we helped move the historic Memorandum of Agreement forward by working in close collaboration with MPS to optimize our effectiveness as a school through continued development of our school improvement plan and our on-going professional development efforts.

## HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Our award winning garden program continues into its eighth year and now includes : planting and maintenance, food preservation, seed storage, composting, cooking , a bee and butterfly garden, rain gardens and is well integrated with Indigenous Languages and cultures

We offered a variety of opportunities for physical education including martial arts, yoga, hiking, drumming, canoeing, biking, physical training, rock climbing and a basketball team to all of our students resulting in healthier lifestyles and improved health outcomes, measured four times yearly at our School/Community Health Fairs.

Our United Way-sponsored programming has successfully reduced teen pregnancy since its inception. We have experienced zero student pregnancies over the past three years only one in the past six years



Dog sledding in the Boundary Waters Area



Visit with the St. Croix Band



In history class with Korissa

**Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax**

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)

- ▶ Do not enter Social Security numbers on this form as it may be made public.  
 ▶ Information about Form 990 and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990).

**2013****Open to Public Inspection**Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service**A For the 2013 calendar year, or tax year beginning** 7/01 , 2013, and ending 6/30 , 2014**B** Check if applicable:

- ☐ Address change  
☐ Name change  
☐ Initial return  
☐ Terminated  
☐ Amended return  
☐ Application pending

**C**  
 CENTER SCHOOL, INC.  
 2421 BLOOMINGTON AVENUE SOUTH  
 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55404

**D** Employer Identification Number

36-3591386

**E** Telephone number

612-721-1655

**G** Gross receipts \$ 1,011,003.

**F** Name and address of principal officer: JOSEPH RICE  
 SAME AS C ABOVE

**H(a)** Is this a group return for subordinates? Yes ☐ No ☒**H(b)** Are all subordinates included? Yes ☐ No ☐  
If 'No,' attach a list. (see instructions)**I** Tax-exempt status ☒ 501(c)(3) ☐ 501(c) ( ) (insert no.) ☐ 4947(a)(1) or ☐ 527**J** Website: WWW.CENTERSCHOOL.ORG**H(c)** Group exemption number ▶**K** Form of organization: ☒ Corporation ☐ Trust ☐ Association ☐ Other ▶**L** Year of formation: 1972**M** State of legal domicile: MN**Part I Summary**

Activities & Governance	1 Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities: PROVIDING TRANSFORMATIVE EDUCATION, GROUNDED IN INDIGENOUS LANGUAGE AND LIFE-WAYS, NATURE AND LOVE OF LEARNING.		
	2 Check this box <input type="checkbox"/> if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its net assets.		
	3 Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a).....	3	7
	4 Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b).....	4	7
Revenue	5 Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2013 (Part V, line 2a).....	5	26
	6 Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary).....	6	0
	7a Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12.....	7a	0.
	7b Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34.....	7b	0.
Expenses	8 Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h).....	Prior Year	Current Year
	9 Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g).....	471,287.	549,111.
	10 Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d).....	446,570.	460,376.
	11 Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e).....	3,218.	1,516.
	12 Total revenue — add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12).....	921,075.	1,011,003.
	13 Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1-3).....		
	14 Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4).....		
	15 Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5-10).....	558,476.	622,583.
	16a Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e).....	31,998.	33,273.
	b Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) ▶ 79,178.		
Net Assets or Fund Balances	17 Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a-11d, 11f-24e).....	312,957.	381,641.
	18 Total expenses. Add lines 13-17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25).....	903,431.	1,037,497.
	19 Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 18 from line 12.....	17,644.	-26,494.
	20 Total assets (Part X, line 16).....	Beginning of Current Year	End of Year
	21 Total liabilities (Part X, line 26).....	324,227.	275,423.
	22 Net assets or fund balances. Subtract line 21 from line 20.....	135,659.	113,349.
		188,568.	162,074.

**Part II Signature Block**

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here	Signature of officer		Date	
	JOSEPH RICE		EXEC DIRECTOR	
Paid Preparer Use Only	Print/Type preparer's name	Preparer's signature	Date	Check <input type="checkbox"/> if self-employed PTIN
	NEAL O EVERT		12/19/14	P00046853
	Firm's name	CARPENTER EVERT & ASSOCIATES		
	Firm's address	7760 FRANCE AVE. S. #940 BLOOMINGTON, MN 55435		
			Firm's EIN ▶	41-1534805
			Phone no.	(952) 831-0085

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? (see instructions) Yes ☒ No ☐**BAA For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions.**

CENTER SCHOOL, INC.  
STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2014 AND 2013

	2014			2013		
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
Support and Revenue:						
Contributions	\$ 35,778	\$ 62,500	\$ 98,278	\$ 25,863	\$ 124,000	\$ 149,863
United Way	-	130,575	130,575	-	130,112	130,112
Government Grants	320,258	-	320,258	191,312	-	191,312
Lunch Program	19,280	-	19,280	12,867	-	12,867
Program Service Fees	441,096	-	441,096	433,703	-	433,703
Miscellaneous	1,516	-	1,516	3,218	-	3,218
Net Assets Released from Restrictions:						
Satisfaction of Program Restrictions	60,500	(60,500)	-	8,080	(8,080)	-
Satisfaction of Time Restrictions	130,575	(130,575)	-	167,612	(167,612)	-
Satisfaction of Capital Restrictions	6,722	(6,722)	-	52,044	(52,044)	-
Total Support and Revenue	1,015,725	(4,722)	1,011,003	894,699	26,376	921,075
Expense:						
Program Services	841,019	-	841,019	721,182	-	721,182
Support Services:						
Management and General						
Fundraising	117,300	-	117,300	104,487	-	104,487
	79,178	-	79,178	77,762	-	77,762
Total Support Services	196,478	-	196,478	182,249	-	182,249
Total Expense	1,037,497	-	1,037,497	903,431	-	903,431
Change in Net Assets	(21,772)	(4,722)	(26,494)	(8,732)	26,376	17,644
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	81,346	107,222	188,568	90,078	80,846	170,924
Net Assets - End of Year	\$ 59,574	\$ 102,500	\$ 162,074	\$ 81,346	\$ 107,222	\$ 188,568

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements  
are an integral part of these statements.



## CENTER SCHOOL, INC.

## STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014 WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR 2013

	2014				2013	
	Support Services				Total All Services	Total All Services
	Total Program Services	Management & General	Fund-raising	Total Support Services	Total All Services	Total All Services
Salaries	\$ 418,362	\$ 57,023	\$ 28,507	\$ 85,530	\$ 503,892	\$ 430,278
Employee Benefits	72,005	9,814	4,906	14,720	86,725	78,426
Payroll Taxes	26,540	3,617	1,808	5,425	31,965	49,772
Total Personnel Costs	516,907	70,454	35,221	105,675	622,582	558,476
Contract Services	166,444	20,305	37,076	57,381	223,825	161,344
Program Equipment	20,905	-	-	-	20,905	3,448
Lunches	19,968	-	-	-	19,968	13,765
Insurance	14,721	2,006	1,003	3,009	17,730	17,056
Occupancy	11,626	1,585	792	2,377	14,003	18,107
Student Activities	13,935	-	-	-	13,935	13,767
Equipment Lease and Maintenance	10,572	1,441	720	2,161	12,733	29,963
Professional Fees	-	11,810	-	11,810	11,810	10,443
Miscellaneous	9,178	1,251	626	1,877	11,055	9,374
Supplies	5,810	2,905	968	3,873	9,683	7,266
Telephone	6,442	878	439	1,317	7,759	9,429
Dues and Memberships	7,061	-	-	-	7,061	6,982
Vehicle Expense	4,587	625	313	938	5,525	9,751
Staff Development	3,569	486	244	730	4,299	3,427
Staff Mileage & Trust	2,702	368	184	552	3,254	1,806
Curriculum	3,222	-	-	-	3,222	5,680
Interest Expense	2,446	333	167	500	2,946	1,906
Advertising	490	67	33	100	590	1,099
Depreciation	20,434	2,786	1,392	4,178	24,612	20,342
Total Expense	\$ 841,019	\$ 117,300	\$ 79,178	\$ 196,478	\$ 1,037,497	\$ 903,431

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements  
are an integral part of this statement.

CENTER SCHOOL, INC.  
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
JUNE 30, 2014 AND 2013

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>		
Current Assets:		
Cash	\$ 93,881	\$ 125,074
Accounts Receivable	1,341	-
Grants Receivable	65,000	73,000
Prepaid Expenses	7,919	8,495
Other Assets	12,569	-
Total Current Assets	<u>180,710</u>	<u>206,569</u>
Property and Equipment - Net	<u>94,713</u>	<u>117,658</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 275,423</u>	<u>\$ 324,227</u>
 <u>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</u>		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts Payable	\$ 19,413	\$ 17,694
Notes Payable	24,081	29,420
Funds Held for Others	30,974	43,189
Accrued Salaries and Vacation	18,228	14,902
Other Liabilities	-	3,249
Total Current Liabilities	<u>92,696</u>	<u>108,454</u>
Long-term Liabilities:		
Notes Payable	<u>20,653</u>	<u>27,205</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>113,349</u>	<u>135,659</u>
Net Assets:		
Unrestricted	59,574	81,346
Temporarily Restricted	102,500	107,222
Total Net Assets	<u>162,074</u>	<u>188,568</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 275,423</u>	<u>\$ 324,227</u>

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements  
are an integral part of these statements.

## Na-way-ee, Center School, Inc.

2421 Bloomington Avenue South  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55404

# Board of Directors 2013–2014

Thank you to our board of Directors for their support and guidance during the last year.

### KAREN MCCALL

(Voting Member)  
McCall Design Inc.  
(10 plus years in the Native Community)

### NAOMI FARABEE

(Board Vice Chair)  
University of Minnesota  
(White Earth Ojibwe)

### OWEN TURNLUND

(Voting Member)  
Director (retired)  
Plymouth Christian Youth Center

### ALICIA WAUKAU

(Voting Member)  
Minneapolis American Indian Center  
(Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin)

### GRAHAM HARTLEY

(Secretary/Treasurer)  
Educational Programs Director  
Migizi Communications  
(20 plus years in the Native Community)

### DEATRICK LAPOINTE, M.A.

(Board Chair)  
Indian Health Board of Minneapolis  
(Sicangu Lakota/Rosebud Sioux Tribe)

### LYNETTE VIZENOR

(Voting Member)  
Addiction Counselor  
(Red Lake Ojibwe)

