



## Navajo Nation Department of Diné Education

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## Maori Delegation to visit the Navajo Nation Department of Diné Education

**Window Rock, Arizona**— In partnership with Arizona State University, the Department of Diné Education will be hosting the Maori Delegation of New Zealand on September 20, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. at the Navajo Nation Museum, Window Rock, Arizona.

“The Maori Delegation would like to see what the Navajo Nation is doing in terms of language and culture perseverance”, said Dr. Calvin White, Education Administrator of the Office Diné Science, Math and Technology.

The Maori Delegation will be looking at the development of the Diné Cultural Standards and the initiative of the Department of Diné Education becoming as State Education Agency. As a State Education Agency, the Department of Diné Education would assume functions comparable to State Departments of Education, where the Navajo Nation would have regulatory control over standards, curriculum development, instruction, teacher certification, professional development, assessment tools in all areas of academics, and certification of professional personnel seeking endorsement in Navajo language and culture.

Navajo Nation Vice President Rex Lee Jim, Health, Education and Human Services Committee Chairman Jonathan Hale, Navajo Nation Board of Education President Jimmie C. Begay and Navajo Nation Superintendent of Schools Andrew M. Tah will be addressing the Maori Delegation regarding language and culture preservation. The Maori Delegation will also be visiting several Navajo Nation schools to observe firsthand how language and culture preservation taking place in the classroom.

All interested parties are invited to attend. This meeting is open to the public.

For further information, contact the Department of Diné Education (928) 871-7475.

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