



Wendell Waukau

Superintendent

Menominee Indian School District, Wisconsin

Wendell Waukau, MA, ES, is currently the Superintendent for Menominee Indian School District. Menominee Indian School District (MISD) is located on the Menominee Indian Reservation in Northeast Wisconsin and serves approximately 1,000 students in grades 4K-12. Wendell is an enrolled member of the Menominee Indian Tribe in Wisconsin and considers it both a privilege and an honor to work and serve in the community he grew up in. For 32 years, Wendell has served MISD and his community as a teacher, coach, athletic director, dean of students, principal and now superintendent.

Once labeled a “drop out factory” (2008) for graduating less than 60% of its students on time, MISD has successfully implemented various reforms/initiatives in the areas of: community and family engagement; mentoring; early childhood; social emotional learning, nutrition & wellness; trauma informed care, resiliency, and restorative practices which have led to a present-day graduation rate of rate of 90%. In 2012, Wendell was honored at the White House under President Obama’s administration as a School Turnaround Champion of Change. Wendell and his wife Lori have 3 children, Joan, Antonette, & Wendell Jr.

