

Anpao Duta Flying Earth

Anpao Duta Flying Earth grew up on the Standing Rock Reservation in rural South Dakota and North Dakota. He is of the Lakota, Dakota, Ojibwe, and Akimel O'odham tribes. Duta is the youngest of three and a third generation college graduate. He graduated from Cornell University with a BA in Government. He is currently the Head of School and the first Associate Director at the Native American Community Academy (NACA) in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Duta joined NACA to assist in founding the charter school in 2006. In NACA's inaugural year, Duta served as a math instructor, social studies instructor, and an After-School Coordinator. He later served as an Outreach and Community Programs Coordinator, founded and taught the first Lakota language program in New Mexico, was the Director of Enrollment and Community Relations, and taught Indigenous Studies. Duta has served as Associate Director and Head of School since 2012. In his capacity as co-founder and head of school at NACA, Duta has been instrumental in representing NACA as a premiere example of Indigenous education nationwide.



Duta has long been a learner of Lakota language and has participated in language revitalization efforts that his grandmother, Patricia Locke, advocated for and developed during her lifetime. He began his efforts to learn his language when he was inducted into a society of traditional Lakota singers at age 13. For the last five summers, he has participated in and served as adjunct faculty for the Lakhotiyapi Summer Institute, the premier Lakota and Dakota language teacher professional development event in the country. Duta is interested in further developing indigenous language revitalization efforts through learning and sharing with other indigenous communities.