A role model is a person who one can look up to on a daily basis and view as an example for the choices they make and the goals you have for the future. Role models are sometimes confused with heroes; however, there is a difference. While important in their own right, heroes are larger-than-life figures – think superheroes or movie characters – who are difficult, if not downright impossible, to emulate. Role models on the other hand do not possess superpowers or even fame necessarily; in fact role models may be people you see every day going to work, trying their hardest, and helping others.

Can you think of a role model in your life?

Role models are important for everyone as they grow up and remain so even for adults. A role model can be an athlete, musician, teacher, a parent or sibling – in other words, just about anyone.

Across Minnesota and the Twin Cities there are countless examples of American Indians having success on their terms whether it be a teacher, doctor, lawyer, artist, or someone else. Role models are people in the community who have had the type of success and made the kind of decisions you want to make someday too. By hearing the stories of community role models you will have the opportunity to think about what you want to accomplish in the future.

What are some of your life goals?

Write them here: