

**Paul Dressen** is a graduate of Red Wing High School, and a graduate of Minnesota South East Technical College and Sheldon Jackson College (a small private college on the island of Barenoff in the city of Sitka, Alaska). While Dressen attended, Sheldon Jackson College had the largest population of Alaskan Native and Indian students in the state. During that time, Dressen had the opportunity to work with the college's Admissions Council and as a fisheries technician in the tribal salmon hatchery. In the fall of 1989, Dressen returned to Minnesota and was hired by the Prairie Island Dakota Community to work as a postsecondary counselor through a 312 grant. He has spent the last 25 years of his career working with the Prairie Island Dakota Community and has worked in every level of the Indian Education program, from initial development to ultimately becoming the director. Dressen has more than 30 years of experience working in the field of education in Indian Country.