

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE CAMP VERDE  
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (CVUSD) AND THE YAVAPAI APACHE NATION  
(YAN) TRIBAL COUNCIL

**Minutes taken October 22, 2013**

Camp Verde Unified School District Library, located at 280 Camp Lincoln  
Road,  
Camp Verde, AZ  
86322

**Time: 6:30 PM**

**1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER- ROLL CALL (CVUSD)**

Board President Freeman called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

Board Members present were: President Helen Freeman, Bob Simbric, Judy Gilbert, Trent Hackett and Christine Schneider.

Yavapai Apache Council Members present were: Chairman Thomas Beauty, Vice Chairwoman Darlene Rubio; Nancy Guzman, Lorna Hazelwood, Robin Hazelwood, Dave Kinsey, Jr., Monica Marquez and Mamie Fox.

CVUSD Administrators present were: Superintendent Dr. Amber Lee; Principal and Native American Academic Coordinator Steve King; Director of Business Services, Steve Hicks; Elementary Principal, Debi Pottorff; Middle School Principal, Danny Howe and High School Principal, Bob Weir.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Yavapai Council Chairman Thomas Beauty led the pledge of allegiance. There was a moment of silence.

**3. AGENDA REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE**

Mrs. Gilbert moved, seconded by Mr. Hackett to accept the agenda as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

**4. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS**

A. Discussion on annual review of policies IHBJ and IHBJ-R

Superintendent Dr. Lee explained that part of the reason for the Joint meeting was to discuss and get input on the Indian Education Policy and Regulation.

Dr. Lee, Native American Student Coordinator Mr. Steve King, and Director of Business Services Steve Hicks, answered questions from the Council regarding the policies: The policies can be amended but are required to have the components mandated by the U.S. Department of Education and the Indian Education Act. The Policy is reviewed annually with the Tribal Council; amendments are always open for discussion. Impact Aid dollars are funded by the U.S. Department of Education and are partly based on the number of students residing on Indian lands within the District's boundaries. Impact Aid is federal dollars collected by the District in lieu of property taxes. It is directed into the schools general fund to benefit all the students of the District.

Chairman Beauty asked that the Council Members take the policies home and study them. After they have had a chance to get some input from Tribal parents

and legal counsel they will bring recommendations to the School Board and Administration.

There was no action taken on the Item.

B. Update/Report, Information, Discussion and Input from Native American Student Academic Coordinator(s) on Student Progress and Parent Committee

Mr. Steve King, Co-Native American Student Academic Coordinator explained that his counterpart Mrs. Laurie Kaaekuahiwi had previous obligations and could not attend the meeting. However, he stated, that Mrs. Kaaekuahiwi was instrumental in providing the information he would be presenting. Mr. King presented a PowerPoint to the Board and Council regarding Title VII and Impact Aide outlining objectives, progress and future goals.

Mr. King explained that the Title VII Federal Program Plan is being restructured. There is a big difference between policy and plan, though the plan has to align with the policy. The purpose is to ensure that Native American students are offered the same educational opportunities as all students in the District. The money generated from the grant has to be used for direct academic instruction. Native American parents need to be informed of their students' educational opportunities and progress. Increasing communication between the schools and the families is an essential goal (objective).

There are currently two hundred and twenty-four (224) Native American Students enrolled- 15 % of the District's student population (not including South Verde Technology Magnet, which is exempt from Title VII). The money generated from the grant last year was \$ 36,000.00. Mr. King and Mrs. Kaaekuahiwi are looking for creative ways to make those limited dollars stretch for the students.

The most important aspect of Title VII is providing tutoring for the Native American student population. In order to meet the Title VII requirements the District must report data to the federal government regarding the number of Native American students who are served in the District. For the District, the data is essential in order to identify the students, provide services and track their progress. There was some discussion on how to best communicate to the Native American families the need to fill out the Title VII forms for data tracking. Chairman Beauty recommended that Mr. King have information meetings with the parents at the Nation. Other ideas included having the parents fill out the forms when the parents enroll their children for their Certificate of Indian Blood, or when they fill out forms for clothing allowances. Using the Tribal newspaper to inform parents about the importance of the form might also be helpful.

Mr. King asked the Council to feel free to make recommendations for the Title VII Parent Committee that needs to be in place by the end of November. This committee will have a great deal of input and impact on the Title VII plan; helping to identify the needs of the students and how to best meet those needs. The committee will also be assisting with the Title VII Grant.

Currently, an average of five (5) students from South Verde Technology Magnet School's Native American Club tutor Elementary Native American students two

(2) days a week, under the direction, and with the assistance of the Academic Coordinators and Johnson O'Malley Tutor Mona Cooley. This has been beneficial to both the South Verde students and the Elementary students. Councilwoman Guzman noted that she was pleased to see children motivating, encouraging and helping one another.

Mr. King stated that there is a concern with student attendance; 90 % of success is showing up. The schools data base is capable of generating bi-weekly reports on attendance and sending them to the Tribal Council. The hope is to join efforts to raise the attendance rate of the students.

Mr. King and Mrs. Kaaekuahiwi have additionally been working on implementing programs to enhance cultural awareness for the students. Councilwoman Marquez stated that there is a certified Yavapai Apache language teacher at the Nation. She wondered if the High School might be able to use those services for the students next year. High School Principal Mr. Weir said that it was a good time to look into that; course schedules for next year are being built now.

There was further discussion on how to send communications to the Tribe. Chairman Beauty recommended publishing school events and happenings in the Tribal Newspaper.

There was no action taken on the Item.

#### C. Update/Report, Information, Discussion and Input from Johnson O'Malley (JOM) Tutors

Leona Wathagoma Director of Johnson O'Malley and JOM Tutors, Cherie Anzar, Roberta Quail and Cindy Eaton addressed the Board with an update on their work and the student's progress.

Mrs. Quail, High School JOM Tutor reported that she works with forty five (45) Native American students at the High School. She has been attending all the core classes, tutoring the students. She is now starting to attend some of the elective classes. Mrs. Quail will be focusing on the students who are failing classes and need more help, tracking their progress and concentrating on aiding them specifically. She facilitated the Native American recognition week for all the schools. Mrs. Wathagoma relayed a story about Mrs. Quail helping a member of her family with geometry and English. She was pleased with Mrs. Quail's tutoring skills.

Mrs. Anzar is new to the Elementary School and tutors Kindergarten through second (2nd) graders, on Tuesdays and Thursdays. She is available before and after school. She had only been working at the Elementary for four (4) days and has had the intrinsic reward of helping a proud student express joy upon completion of his homework.

Ms. Eaton works with sixty (60) students at the Middle School. She has parents call her at home and works directly with them. She has many students show up for after school tutoring. The Middle School staff is very helpful in supporting her efforts; supporting her efforts with after school tutoring. Ms. Eaton has worked within the District for twenty-two (22) years; this is her fifth

(5th) year as a JOM tutor.

**4. CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT**

Dr. Lee stated that she felt that through collaboration the Council, the Board, the Administration and the Johnson O'Malley program have made advancements on behalf of the students.

Board Member Gilbert related that she had attended a function at the Nation a few years ago where teachers, principals, parents and students had a social dinner together. She felt that events like this may help facilitate school and family communications.

Council Chairman Beauty relayed a story about his family and their experience at the Middle School with Principal Mr. Howe and JOM Tutor Cindy Eaton. He was very pleased with the collaborative communication efforts on his student's behalf, between the Principal, the JOM tutor and the parents. Mr. Beauty thanked Mr. Howe for helping his student get on back on track. His efforts had a profound effect on his student's academic success that has carried over into his high school career. He thanked the Board and Administration for hosting the meeting.

**Motion:** Mrs. Gilbert moved, seconded by Mr. Hackett to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Hudson  
Board/Administrative Assistant

Helen Freeman  
Board President

Trent Hackett  
Member

Judy Gilbert  
Member

Christine Scheideer  
Member

Bob Simbric  
Member