

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

December 6, 1973

Mail
Honorable Dewey Bartlett
Room 140 Old Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator Bartlett:

I understand you have been contacted recently concerning the future plans for the Intermountain School in Brigham City, Utah.

Because of your interest in Indian education, I am asking for your support to insure that the facility is utilized in the best possible manner. The school has 20 dormitories, an indoor swimming pool, 2 gymnasiums, a modern language lab and is, in my opinion, one of the finest facilities of its type in the nation.

As you may know, the school was turned into a learning institution for the Navajo Tribe following World War II. For some time now, the Navajo Nation has been anxious to educate their children in facilities closer to home. Tribal leaders now feel they can accommodate their students on the Reservation and, as a result, steps have now been taken to close the facility. However, a number of resolutions have been adopted by tribal leaders urging that the school remain open and become an All-Tribal National Indian School.

I know we share the same goal in seeing that all Indian children receive the best education that is available. If the school is to remain open for all Indians, your support is greatly needed. Background data and statistical information relative to potential uses of the school for all Indian tribes is being obtained. I will, therefore, be glad to answer any questions you may have, so please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Gunn McKay
Gunn McKay
Member of Congress

GM:gmr



THE NAVAJO NATION
WINDOW ROCK, ARIZONA 86515

PETER McDONALD
CHAIRMAN

January 8, 1974

Dear Miss Jean:

I should like to thank you for your invitation of December 17, 1973, to visit your school. I regret to inform you at this point in time that my schedule would not allow me to accommodate your request. While I do share your concern about the possibility of closing Intermountain School, I cannot find an opening date during next three months which I could assign to a visit with you and the student body. The Navajo Tribal Council sessions demand my time and presence as well as the preparation for the upcoming congressional hearing on the Navajo-Hopi land dispute, among others.

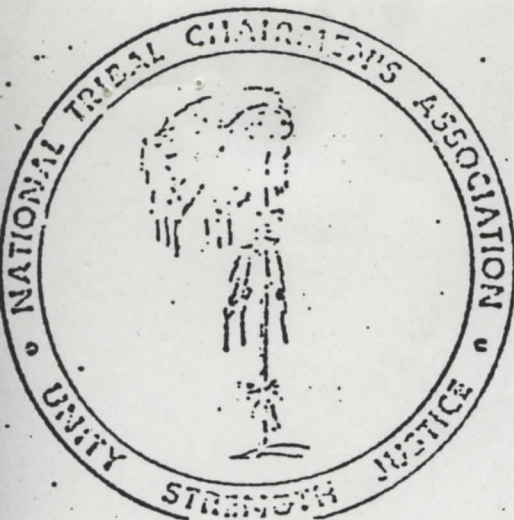
Be assured that the Vice Chairman and I are continuing our efforts on federal level to avoid the closing of your school. In this regard, I encourage your contact and communication with our own Navajo Education Division about your concern. They have been successful in obtaining congressional support in the past with certain causes in the field of education.

With kind regards.

Sincerely,

Peter MacDonald, Chairman
Navajo Tribal Council

Miss Genevieve Jean
Secretary
Intermountain School
P. O. Box 345
Brigham City, Utah



NATIONAL TRIBAL CHAIRMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Suite 406 1701 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006

202—343-9484

BD-1/74-No. 1

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, A report has been made by the Intermountain Evaluation Task Force on June 1, 1973, to explore the possible uses of the Intermountain School for Indian programs; and

WHEREAS, The report explored the following alternatives for future use of the facility:

1. The need for Intermountain as a secondary school for Indian students from other tribal groups.
2. The need for Intermountain as a facility for other than elementary or secondary education.
3. The possible utilization of the facility for non-Bureau purposes.

WHEREAS, It is believed that other possible alternatives should be considered before any final decision is made with respect to the Intermountain facility so that the facility might be put to some use to benefit Indian young people.

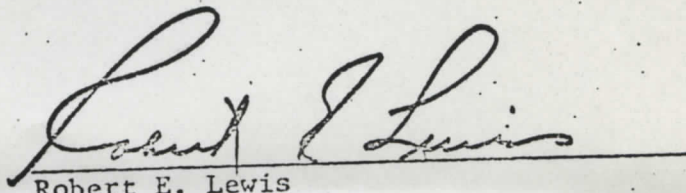
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the National Tribal Chairmen's Association requests that the report made by the Intermountain Evaluation Task Force on June 1, 1973, be reopened to consider the following additional alternatives for the future use of the Intermountain School:

1. A preparatory school to prepare Indian students for regular college programs who might be high school graduates or possess GED certificates but are in need of better preparation in areas such as English, Mathematics, etc.
2. A preparatory school for pre-delinquent Indian youth, many of whom are now in BIA Boarding Schools without personnel or facilities to help rehabilitate pre-delinquents.
3. A preparatory school for pre-release programs for youthful offenders now in State or Federal Training Schools or other Correctional Institutions.

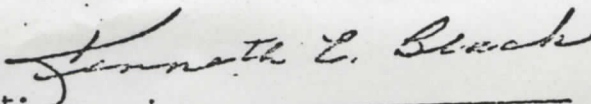
4. A preparatory school for exceptional Indian youth needing specialized care and instruction.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the National Tribal Chairmen's Association Board of Directors, a quorum being present, at a regular scheduled meeting of the Board held on January 11, 1974, in Washington, D. C.



Robert E. Lewis
President, NTCA



Attest:

Acting Secretary NTCA

UNITED SOUTHEASTERN TRIBES, INC.

RESOLUTION NO. 73-26

RE: Intermountain School

WHEREAS, this Board of Directors has been informed that the Bureau of Indian Affairs plans to close Intermountain School, a large government boarding school in Brigham City, Utah, and

WHEREAS, this decision has been based on the sole fact that the Navajo Nation, current users of the school, no longer need the facility, and

WHEREAS, we are urging a National Needs Assessment Survey be conducted with input assured from several national Indian organizations such as: National Congress of American Indians, National Tribal Chairmen's Association, and the major Inter-Tribal Councils for regional input, and

WHEREAS, we also urge that attention be directed toward children with education handicaps, emotional problems, family home situations, drop-outs, and cultural shock problems. This is the children that our national 70% reservation drop-out group is made up of, and

WHEREAS, this Board would also desire that the solo-parent training and education needs be considered in this survey, and

WHEREAS, we are aware that Intermountain School's plant is in excellent state of repair and appraised at \$45,000,000.00, we are also aware of the fact that BIA spent \$2,500,000.00 in FY-73-74 remodeling and modernizing the school, and

WHEREAS, this Board is also informed that several million 89-10 Title I funds have been spent to prepare this school to serve children with special problems, and

WHEREAS, Intermountain School has: 29 modernized dormitories, classrooms and extensive vocational shops, 2 gyms, indoor swimming pool, language and science laboratories, remodeled dining facilities, reading center, media production center, indoor and outdoor recreation facilities, and a library,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Board urges that Intermountain School be redirected to a National All-Tribe School for students with special problems, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a national needs assessment survey be conducted to determine all possible other uses.

USET RESOLUTION NO. 73-26

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CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the United Southeastern Tribes, Inc., properly convened and held in Nashville, Tennessee, November 19-21, 1973, the above resolution was duly adopted by a unanimous vote.

/s/ HOWARD TOMMIE

President, Inter-Tribal Council
United Southeastern Tribes, Inc.
Chairman, Seminole Tribe of Florida

/s/ DEAN WILLIAMS

Secretary, Inter-Tribal Council
United Southeastern Tribes, Inc.
President, Seneca Nation of Indians

/s/ JOHN A. CROWE

Principal Chief,
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

/s/ BUFFALO TIGER

Chairman,
Miccosukee Tribe of Indians

/s/ LEROY BURGESS

Chairman,
Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana

Charles Helseth
United Southeastern Tribes
1970 Main Street
Sarasota, Florida

Lorena L. Dixon
California Inter-Tribal
Box 224
Pauma Valley, California 92061

Howard Tommie
Chairman, Seminole Tribe
Hollywood, Florida

Stuart Jamieson
National Congress of American Indian
Washington, D.C.

Bob Shaw
Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada
98 Colony Road
Reno, Nevada 89502
Editor: Native Nevadian

Mel Tonasket
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Nespelem, Washington

Michael Tiger
Seminole Tribe
Hollywood, Florida

Beverly Holmes
NITC
911 East 40,
Ogden, Utah

Martin Wall
Seminole Tribe of Florida
6073 Stirling Road
Hollywood, Florida

Victor LaCourse
NITC
106 East 3 North
Brigham City,

Kee Dale
Deputy Director,
Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada
98 Colony Road
Reno, Nevada

Ernest Sickey
Chairman, Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana
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Elton, La. 70532

Charlene Farmer
Shoshone & Bannack
Education Committee
Fort Hall, Idaho

Lyman Pierce
Gnondago - New York
Star Route
Killbuck, New York 14788

Maxine Edmo
Shoshone & Bannack
Chairman, Tribal
Education Committee
Fort Hall, Idaho

Jimmie Dann
Shoshone-Bannock
Council Member
Fort Hall, Idaho

Frank Papps
Chairman,
Shoshone Bannack Tribe
Fort Hall, Idaho

Dorothy Stanley
Tuolumne Tribal Council
California

Frank Timbimboo
NorthWestern Shoshone
Chairman
Brigham City, Utah

Amelia S. Calac
Area 5
Inter-tribal Council
Box 421
Pauma, 92061

James Paiva
Shoshone-Paiute
Owyhee, Nevada
Vice-Chairman

Ellwood Thomas
Shoshone-Paiute
Owyhee, Nevada
Council Member

McKay R. Pikyauit
Piute
Pres. UPT CORP.
Richfield, Utah

Earl Old Person
Chairman,
Blackfeet Tribe
Browning, Montana

Robert Billie
Harry Sloan both from Navajo Education Committee

Benson Gibson Nevada Indian Affairs Commissioners Carson City Nevada

Mrs. Angela P. Butterfield Star Route Box 175 Pocatello, Idaho 83201
Council Member Shoshone Bannock Tribes
Fort Hall, Idaho

Olathe "Barney" Creasey Box 61, Fort Hall, Idaho
Council Member Shoshone Bannock Tribes 83203

Lorraine Edmo Director Of Idaho Inter-Tribal Policy Board
318 Idaho Building
Boise, Idaho 83702

We, the UNDERSIGNED CONCERNED INDIAN PEOPLE, resolve that to stop all action in closing the present Bureau of Indian Affairs facilities located at Brigham City, Utah, which include the Intermountain Indian School, National Indian Training Center, Bureau Wide Film Library, Professional Library Services Unit, the Bureau's Indian Police Academy and to encourage and enter into agreement with the Public Health Service to postpone any action until final decisions are reached.

Whereas it is requested that the budget of the above Bureau of Indian Affairs Organizations remain allocated at their present level of funding until an Indian Feasibility Study Team has had the opportunity to study and prepare their findings and render a decision.

Whereas it is requested that the Bureau of Indian Affairs fund the feasibility study team which will include representatives composed of the following National Organizations: NCAI, NTCA, USET, NIEA, ITCC, a representative of the Navajo Indian Tribe and Coalition of Indian School Boards.

NAME	TRIBE	STATE
Mel Tomasett	Colville - NCAI	Wash.
Harold Comair	Seminole	Fla
Harold Sloan Sr	Pacaja	Oregon
Jackson	Shoshone	Utah
Kee Sall Sr	ITC of Nevada	NOVADA
Bob Chum	Platte	Kansas
Walter A. Harty	Pro-Wash	California
Bruce Dolores	Cherokee	Utah
Charles Brown	Shoshone	Idaho
Walter Evans	Shoshone	Idaho
Tom Lewis Sec	Shoshone	Idaho

NAME

TRIBE

STATE

Michael Wign

Seminole (FLA)

Florida

James F. Price

ONONDAGA - NEW YORK

New York

Frank Adams

NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL ON EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

Fort Hall Idaho

E. O.

Shoshone & Bannock

Mrs. Elizabeth Butterfield

Chairman Shepet Commission, Mrs. Council Woman Shoshone Bannock Tribe

Fort Hall, Idaho

Olivia Cressy

Council Woman Shoshone & Bannock

Fort Hall Idaho

John R. Pugh

Penit

Red Hill Utah

John Bellie

Nauvoo Council (Ed)

Cent. H., Utah

Frank L. Lumber

North Western Mission

Brigham Utah

Ernest Siskey

Coushatta, Tribe of La

Elmore, La.

Opelia D. Loe

Org. 5 individual Council of La. Missions Groups

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Lorena L. Dixon

Entire - Total Council of Calif. P.O. Box 234

Calif. Panama Valley, Ca. 92061

Jim Dan

Sho-Ban Tribal Council

Fort Hall Idaho

Mary K. Jensen

Student body U.P. (Nov)

Brigham, Utah

Genevieve Jean

Student body U.P. (Nov)

Brigham, Utah

Anderson Joe

Student body U.P. (Nov)

Brigham, Utah

E. O.

USCT

Sarasota, Fla

Ogden Standard-Examiner

2A OGDEN, UTAH, SATURDAY EVENING, JANUARY 19, 1974

EDITORIALS

All-Tribal School at Brigham City

The Bureau of Indian Affairs now knows what Northern Uteians have long felt — that the Intermountain School in Brigham City should be opened to Indians from all tribes.

The institution, on the site of the World War II Bushnell Army General Hospital, definitely should NOT be closed.

That was made clear this week when leaders of 20 tribes — representing 250,000 people — met with officials of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The meetings were arranged by Democratic Rep. Gurn McKay and Executive Secretary John Dunlop of the Federal Resources Committee of Utah who have spearheaded, with Brigham City councilmen, the effort to keep the school open.

The Intermountain School, since it opened more than 20 years ago, has been operated exclusively for Navajo youngsters, brought to Northern Utah from their Four Corners reservation.

Unfortunately, the school became involved in bitter Navajo tribal politics and elements of the tribe had succeeded in getting the BIA to order that it be phased out.

When the other tribes found out about the closure plans — "by accident," Rep. McKay said — they objected strenuously.

These objections led to this week's Brigham City meetings and censure of James Hawkins, special assistant to the BIA commissioner, for the bureau's policy of doing things the Indians don't want done.

A spokesman for the National Congress of American Indians, Melvin Tomasket, demanded that the BIA quit taking drastic actions — such as closing Intermountain — "without properly consulting the Indians."

Results of the meetings were most rewarding.

A special all-tribal task force will be picked immediately and complete a study by April 1 on how the school's facilities can best be used. One suggestion is that its course of studies embrace the post-high school training. That would be ideal.

Morris Thompson, newly-named BIA commissioner, should have no choice but to react favorably to the recommendations of the special investigators. And we're confident that this will mean continuation of Intermountain School.

Tribal Leaders Gather in Brigham, Could Determine Future of School

BRIGHAM CITY — Indian tribal leaders from throughout the United States could well decide the fate of Intermountain School in meetings here this week on possible intertribal use of the facility.

John Dunlop of the state-funded Federal Research Committee, said 35 leaders are here to inspect facilities and discuss problems.

The leaders were to meet with Rep. K. Gunn McKay, D-Utah, today and relay their findings to him to carry to Washington, Mr. Dunlop said.

GOES WELL

"If this meeting goes well, we should be able to maintain the school. If not, it will fizzle," said Mr. Dunlop.

Navajo tribal leaders say they will send no more new students to the boarding school, meaning a total phaseout no later than 1976. The phaseout probably would come sooner due to economies in enrollment is cut past the present 600 students.

Mr. Dunlop said the Brigham City facility is the only boarding school in the nation maintained wholly for one tribe.

At least 16 different tribes have signed resolutions calling for the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to keep the school open for intertribal use.

The vocationally-oriented school is highly desired by many of the nation's tribes who do not have adequate vocational training facilities of their own, said Mr. Dunlop.

BIG RESPONSE

He said the BIA has made a "big response out of Washington" for the meeting. The committee invited two top BIA officials and seven said they would attend. The BIA "may be trying something," he added.

Mr. Dunlop said surprising strength in support of the school has come from Florida's Congressional Delegation which

corresponds with his office almost daily. The Seminole Tribe of Florida is strongly in favor of using the school and is lobbying well with the state's delegates, he said.

TASK FORCE

Leaders toured facilities, then met together in a closed session Wednesday night to review findings and work out any problems — such as number of students, representation on a

school board and others. Meanwhile, the Federal Research Committee has been asked to serve on a new task force set up by BIA Commissioner Morris Thompson to restudy the school.

Mr. Dunlop said the study, if done quickly would benefit retention of the school. But if it is allowed to "drag on" for a year or more, the school would probably be closed.

Fri Jan 12 1979

Keep School Open, ogden Standard Indian Leaders Say

BRIGHAM CITY — Some 29 Indian tribal leaders Thursday vowed to fight to keep Intermountain School open for inter-tribal use, and demanded the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) "cease actions" to close the facility.

Meeting with BIA representatives and Rep. K. Gunn McKay, D-Utah, leaders representing 29 tribes and 250,000 people unanimously endorsed the school for multi-tribal use.

The school, used wholly by Navajos for over 30 years, is being phased out by the BIA because of economics.

Melvin Tonasket of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) said the NCAI "is going to fight to keep the place open."

STOP ACTIONS

"We demand the BIA cease actions such as their drastic move to close this institution without properly consulting the Indians," he said.

He said his tribal leaders would send students to the school, especially if open for post high school training. "If they knew it would be open and available."

Indian leaders toured the campus Wednesday; then met with Rep. McKay and BIA officials Thursday morning. Later in the morning, tribal leaders met in a closed session to draw up and sign a resolution calling for a moratorium on the phase-out.

The resolution calls for continuance of the school's budget until a task force study is made. It also calls for a separate Indian study team comprised of several organizations for "Indian input."

Indians took to task James Hawkins, special assistant of BIA commissioner Morris Thompson, for the BIA's apparent disinterest in obtaining Indian input.

Earl Old Person, tribal chair-

man of the Blackfeet Tribe in Montana, said, "Many times have the Indians been given the opportunity to say what they want," then find out "somewhere along the line policy is already being drawn up."

KEY TIMES

Indians also asked when "key times for Indian input" would be so they "can tell the BIA what the Indians want."

Mr. Tonasket extracted a promise from Mr. Hawkins that the BIA official would "strongly" recommend the BIA fund a special Indian task force to study the school.

In an interview, Rep. McKay said Indians have found out about the school's facilities "almost by accident" and the "message has not been out among the tribal people as a whole, but confined to bureau channels."

The school "very likely" could begin next fall term in intertribal use, he said.

Mr. Hawkins told newsmen he was "rather impressed" with the strong support in favor of multi-tribal use, and at an "attitude that seems to run counter to the conception that many leaders want to keep their kids closer to home."

He said endorsement of the school by several strong Indian organizations will carry "significant" weight with Commissioner Thompson.



1974
DUPLICATE TELEGRAMS
TELEGRAM TELEPHONED
MAY 11: 21

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LOS IPHBMVZ CSP
6057472283 TDBN ROSEBUD SD 36 01-16 0217P EDT
FON SC17238511
SUPERINTENDENT INTERMOUNTAIN INDIAN SCHOOLS
--FO BOX 345 BRIGHAM CITY UT 84302

THE ROSEBUD SIOUX TRIBE IS IN TOTAL SUPPORT OF THE ENDEAVORS
OF THE UNITED SOUTHEASTERN TRIBES INCORPORATED AND HEREBY AUTHORIZES
CHARLES W HELSETH TO REPRESENT THE ROSEBUD SIOUX TRIBE ON MATTERS
AFFECTING THE INTERMOUNTAIN SCHOOLS
ROBERT BURNEIT PRESIDENT ROSEBUD SIOUX TRIBE

No.	To
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