

RESOLUTION OF THE  
WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE OF THE  
FORT APACHE INDIAN RESERVATION

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe as governing body of the Tribe has the obligation and duty to insure that the youth of the Tribe, which represent the tribe's greatest resource, will be provided leadership training and experience and quality education to better prepare them for their role as future tribal leaders; and

WHEREAS, the future success of the Tribe and Native Americans as a group depends in large part upon the availability of educated individuals from the Tribe who are capable of living in both the Apache and non-Indian culture; and

WHEREAS, the Cibecue Community School located in Cibecue, a community with a population of over 2,000 inhabitants, has expressed two (2) major goals:

- (1) To provide its students with a comprehensive academic experience comparable to the best schools in the country; and
- (2) To preserve and promote Apache Language and cultural history; and

WHEREAS, the school serves approximately 272 students from grades kindergarten through ninth; and

WHEREAS, currently, the school's junior high students must attend classes in temporary buildings and structures that have been condemned, one of which has recently burned to the ground, forcing the students to attend class in a converted storage room; and

WHEREAS, there presently exist no classrooms for high school age students, grades ten through twelve, and these students must commute 120 miles per day to Whiteriver or else move far from family and friends to attend BIA boarding schools; and

- WHEREAS, the student capacity for the existing facility is 170 for grades K-6 with no allocation for grades 7-12 although presently 48 students attend grades 7, 8, and 9 and the total existing Average Daily Membership (ADM) for all grades is 272 with 533 ADM projected within five (5) years; and
- WHEREAS, the inaccessibility of a local high school contributes dramatically to the dropout rate of high school age students in Cibecue, the number of which based on total community population could exceed 250 students; and
- WHEREAS, the age and configuration of the school requires continual improvement and repair and does not meet minimum health and safety requirements, there being several fire and safety deficiencies and lack of a sprinkler system; and
- WHEREAS, the students for grade 7, 8, and 9 attending classes in condemned trailers must travel through outside weather for use of such basic facilities as restrooms and dining areas and the lack of space and regular instructional areas forces all forms of supplemental services to be provided on a strictly pull-out basis; and
- WHEREAS, predictions based on available birth records and improved neonatal and postneonatal survival rates indicate a significant growth for the Cibecue Community School resulting in double the present enrollment within five (5) years; and
- WHEREAS, high school age students from Cibecue are not able to take part in after-school activities in Whiteriver because there is no transportation to their homes to Cibecue afterwards and presently 90 to 95% of young people in Cibecue drop out of school before earning their high school diplomas, a strong indication that the needs of high school age students are not being met; and
- WHEREAS, there is a dire need for a high school in Cibecue in order to enhance community pride, to provide an education for high school age students, to improve the quality and quantity of family communications, to provide an opportunity for students to develop extracurricular activities within the community and to

facilitate parent-teacher conferences which now, because of the great distance to the Alchesay High School (sixty miles one way) makes it very difficult for working parents to meet with teachers to confer about the problems of their children.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it requests that the Bureau of Indian Affairs address the very urgent need of the Cibecue Community to reduce the 95% dropout rate of high school age students and to ameliorate inadequate school facilities by funding improvements and expansion of the current school facility by the addition of classrooms for grades 7-12 and to correct health, sanitation and safety deficiencies of the school so that it can take its place as a community focal point for the betterment of the Cibecue Community and for the development of leadership and capability of school age children so that they will be able to become productive and capable adult members of the White Mountain Apache Tribe.

The foregoing resolution was on February 13, 1991, duly adopted by a vote of TEN for and ZERO against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it by Article V, Section 1 (i) of the Amended Constitution and Bylaws of the Tribe, ratified by the Tribe June 27, 1958, and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on May 29, 1958, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

  
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Chairman of the Tribal Council

  
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Secretary of the Tribal Council

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FORT APACHE INDIAN AGENCY  
WHITERIVER, ARIZONA