**Mountain Empire Unified School District**

**American Indian Education Titles VI & VII**

**January 19, 2023 Meeting**

**Lo Posta Band of Kumeyaay Tribal Hall**

***MEETING MINUTES***

1. The Agenda was amended to add:
2. Dr. Carol Robinson-Zarnutu: Update on Native Scholars/Every Tribe Matters
3. Presentation by Becky Blackwood/Priscilla Ortis on the Kumeyaay Community College Offerings
4. Kristin O’Leary: Update on Museum Classes and Summer Internship

 Motion: Eric LaChappa

 Seconded: Ann Pierce

 Motion Passed

1. Bob Bordelon reviewed the meeting Norms.
2. Dr. Robinson-Zanartu shared that this was her last year working with Mountain Empire Unified School District with the Native Scholars Program. She shared her work in reviewing the 4th grade curriculum described as problematic from a Native perspective. Dr. Robinson-Zanartu invited involvement in her projects, including her new program entitled Every Tribe Matters.
3. Kristin O’Leary gave an update on the Museun On The Go classes, sharing that all classes have been scheduled in our schools. Ms. O’Leary also gave an update on the Summer Kumeyaay Internship program that has been on hold since the Pandemic started. Ms. O’Leary reached out to the Native Community and High School to restart the planning with hopes of initiating the program this Summer. Ms. O’Leary also invited members to participate I the Museum’s new Bookclub offered every fourth Thursday. Zoom participation is also available.
4. Becky Blackwood reminded the group that it is possible for our High School Students to be dual enrolled to take KCC classes. She asked if transportation could be re-established by the High School so students could take Kumeyaay language for their language requirement as had been done prior to the pandemic. KCC Pricilla Ortiz shared out her experience with the Kumeyaay Community College classes and reviewed the course offerings. She asked how she could share out the information at our school sites. Priscilla may be contacted at: p.ortizLaChappa@gmail.com
5. High School Principal David Rios gave a district update.
6. Dr. Keeley expressed his apology for his absence as he was interviewing the staff and community on what they would like in a new principal at Potrero.
7. The Guiding Coalition is this Saturday (Flier handed out).
8. The Community Survey went out and is instrumental in giving the District input toward community desires.
9. The new Jr. High will start next school year in two phases. The first phase will introduce about 300 students to the new site. The second phase, estimated in January, will introduce a new lunch yard.
10. A very involved, time-consuming process has begun with the State Architect on moving forward with retrofitting the High school, or even replacing the High School Building. There are numerous steps that could take significant time in the process, but Mr. Rios wants to let the community know that a process is in play.
11. Bob again requested input on the job description for a possible Liaison.
12. Dr. Cheryl Lugo explained the process; CSEA approval, Board Approval, Interviews…..
13. Becky Blackwood requested that she be involved in the process, having served as a liaison in the past. She also asked if the person hired could also be in charge of running Native Pride clubs at the school sites.
14. There was much discussion on the importance of hiring the “right” Person for the position. The attributes given included that the person be Native from one of our Bands, and be trusted by all groups.
15. Phil Yoon shared that we remind ourselves of one of the first attributes we discussed when envisioning the position. The person should be someone that can develop positive, trusting relationships so students have someone at their school sites they feel comfortable talking with.
16. It was also discussed that it may be important for the liaison to be involved with students in Special Education.
17. Bob Reinforced that in order for the District to move forward, that this would be the final review that would end in January. Both Campo and La Posta are ready to move forward. Dr. Keeley has reached out to Manzanita Chairwoman Angela Elliott-Santos, but they have yet to connect. Becky stated that she will bring the Draft Job Description to Angela in hopes of clarifying any concerns Angela may have.
18. Mr. Rios shared the High School report
19. There was much discussion about Camp Lead with invitations for participation.
20. Unity Days fostering commonalities and students being able to identify who they are.
21. Each student is assigned “At Least One” trusted adult on campus they can talk with.
22. A drug expert spoke to staff, students, and community about local drug awareness.
23. Academic Classes to be selected in February.
24. Dr. Lugo expresses an interest in having Bird Singers invited to her school. This lead to a greater conversation of establishing Kumeyaay activities for possible a whole week throughout our District. Phil encourage not only a week of activities, but an encouragement of Kumeyaay throughout all curriculum. Both Becky, Chairwoman Parada and the group emphasized that the week would not have to occur during the Federally established month of November. Any time of the year will work. Bob will look into the planning and coordination of this for next year.
25. Eric LaChappa shared information about Earth day and invited all to attend, or staff a booth. Earth Day will be Saturday, May 13, and the location is yet to be determined.
26. Our Next two meetings will be scheduled on February 23, and May 25.
27. Motion to Adjourn: Eric La Chappa

 Seconded: Ann Pierce

 Motion passed. Meeting Adjourned at 2:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Bob Bordelon