

SHERMAN INDIAN HIGH SCHOOL

**VOLUME 4, ISSUE 1** 

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#### Secretary Haaland Visits Sherman

In May 2022 Secretary of the Interior Ms. D. Haaland announced the launch of the Road to Healing Tour. This trip was in response to the recommendations of the Federal **Indian Boarding School Initiative** Report. Since May Ms. Haaland and her colleagues have traveled across our country visiting with American Indian, Alaska Natives, and Hawaiian participants in the Federal Boarding School system. The goals of this journey are to obtain firsthand personal information on student experiences in Federal Boarding Schools, promote spiritual and emotional healing in families and tribal communities exposed to the past policies of boarding schools, and to facilitate a rebuilding of trust between the Federal Government and Native communities where boarding school policies were practiced.

In July Ms. Haaland and her large entourage visited Sherman for two days. During the first day Ms. Haaland toured our campus and museum. She also visited the Sherman Cemetery to pay respects to our interned students. On the second day she listened attentively as various speakers conveyed their boarding school experiences. (*Pictured*)





**Top Above**: Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians Tribal Council member John Preckwinkle III (*left*), Vice Chairman Candace Anderson, the Honorable Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland, and Tribal Council member Virginia Gillespie. **Bottom**: The Agua Caliente Cahuilla Tribe Bird Singers share their songs during the day of testimonies.

### Principal's Corner

This year marks Principal Delbert Ortiz's first full academic year at Sherman. Last year he joined our school halfway through the term. In his short time as principal he has aligned our staff and facilities to efficiently meet the needs of our Sherman Community.

To promote high quality instruction at our school he has encouraged teachers and staff to take part in more professional development opportunities. To maintain a safe lunch time

#### **From The Editor**

This year Sherman teachers are using the BIE approved online educational platform Schoology. Our teachers have received training on this learning management system. The system will supplement student learning, aid teacher/school/parent communication, and facilitate collaboration within our professional learning communities.

Click on the YouTube link below to access our library of Sherman videos. You can also view these videos by clicking on the links provided within the information box on the last page of this newsletter.

# You Tube

environment for our students he has directed teachers and staff to patrol critical areas of our campus and the academic building during lunch. He has also requested that teachers and staff provide assistance to our understaffed cafeteria at lunch. Principal Ortiz has initiated new operating guidelines for our student government (Inter-Tribal Council) making it more student directed. He has also strengthened our school parent relationships with his bi-weekly Zoom meetings with parents called "Coffee with the Principal".

Click **HERE** to listen to Principal Ortiz welcome back students and share recent developments and features of Sherman Indian High School.

#### A New Manager in Town

Three months ago Mr. B. Pewo was detailed from the Riverside Indian School in Anadarko, Oklahoma to serve as Sherman's interim Facility Manager (pictured). He will return to Oklahoma on November 7th. Mr. Pewo is a member of the Comanche Nation. He has thirty-one years of Federal service including four years active service in Desert Storm. His hobbies include attending Pow Wows and sweat lodges. Mr. Pewo's major goals over the next months are to continue to oversee our eleven facility employees, upgrade the fire and alarm system, and complete the heating and cooling systems to all parts of our campus. If time allows he also wants to complete the final repairs on the student swimming pool. He would like to thank our Sherman Community for the warm welcome he has received.



Above: Manager B. Pewo (back) and Juan Patino discuss the day's activities.

#### **Rising To A Higher Standard**

Our teachers typically spend some of their summer break updating curriculums and lesson plans and preparing for the new school year. This past summer Sherman teachers and staff also participated in professional development meetings and trainings.

John Wickner, M. Laramie, D. Alderman, D. Sims-Stevenson, R. Priebe, D. Trapp, and H. Bonner experienced the annual AVID summer training in San Diego and Anaheim, California. In June M. Townsend and K. Schwab attended the Innovation BIE Native American Education Summit in Santa Fe, New Mexico. This week-long conference emphasized improving skills in academics, technology, and administration. Gaylene Townsend and D. Trapp participated in a two-week curriculum development workshop hosted by the Riverside County Office of Education. Charlette Dominguez, F. Charley-Baugus, K. Schwab, and M. Townsend joined a two-week online learning workshop on teacher collaboration and intervention strategies for students. Helen Bonner was selected by the National Endowment for the Humanities for Teacher

Professional Development. She attended a two-week training on Native American History at Simmons University in Boston, Massachusetts. For a week in June V. Shattuck joined the annual National Board for Certified Teachers meeting online to gain knowledge on teaching strategies and student inclusion. Monica Royalty improved her jewelry making, painting, and drawing skills by attending classes at the Hui Noeau Visual Art Center in Maui, Hawaii and by interacting with several private artists around Riverside County. Art teacher Cindy Beeshligaii received her third grant award from the National Endowment for the Humanities. With her award she attended a summer institute at the Toledo, Ohio Museum of Art to deepen her knowledge on Native American and African Artwork.



# **Board of Education**

Our Sherman School Board acts in accordance with the Bureau of Indian Education policies to support the best interests of our students and the Sherman Community. The School Board approves the academic and residential budgets and educational and social programs at our school. The Board confirms job appointments and approves the school calendar. Board members periodically meet during the year to review and discuss our academic and residential programs. Board members volunteer their service time to Sherman and are appointed/elected to the Board by the tribes that send their children to Sherman or by the administration. Board member serve a one-year term and can be re-elected/re-appointed again following their term. Our four School Board member this year are: Cynthia Devers, President (Southern California); Carolyn Williams, Secretary, Gila River Indian Community; CeCe Big Crow, Oglala Sioux Tribe; and Lana Shaughnessy, Member at Large.

# **Sherman Diversity**

The United States government recognizes 574 American and Alaskan Native tribes. During our 2022-2023 school year students from fifty-three different tribes joined our Sherman Community. These tribes are listed below:

- · Ak Chin Indian Community
- · Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of Fort Peck
- · Bishop Paiute Tribe
- Campo Kumeyaay Nation
- Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes
- Colorado River Indian Tribes
- Confederated Tribes Warm Springs
- Eastern Shoshone Tribe of Wind River
- Fort Mojave Indian Tribe
- Gila River Indian Community
- Havasupai Tribe
- Ho-Chunk Nation
- Hopi Tribe
- · Hopland Band of Pomo Indians
- Hualapai Tribe
- · Jicarilla Apache Tribe
- Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians
- · Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin
- Mescalero Apache Tribe
- · Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
- · Navajo Nation
- Northern Arapaho Tribe of Wind River
- Northern Cheyenne Tribe
- Oglala Sioux Tribe of Pine Ridge
- · Omaha Poncha Tribe of Nebraska
- · Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah
- Pueblo of San Felipe
- Pueblo of Laguna
- Pueblo of Santo Domingo
- · Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe
- Quechan Indian Tribe
- Red Lake Band of Chippewa
- · Rosebud Sioux Tribe
- · Round Valley Indian Tribes
- · Salt River Pima-Maricopa
- San Carlos Apache Tribe
- · Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians
- Seminole Tribe of Florida
- · Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of Fort Hall
- Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Tribes of Lake Traverse
- · Smith River Tolowa Deeni' Nation
- Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians
- · Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
- Three Affiliated Tribes of Fort Berthold Reservation
- Timbasha Shoshone Tribe
- · Tohono O'odham Nation
- · Torrez-Martinez Desert Cahuilla
- Tule River Indian Tribe
- Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa
- Ute Mountain Tribe
- · White Mountain Apache Tribe
- Yerington Paiute
- Yurok Tribe

#### **Farewell to Ms. Demone**

Teachers play a critical role in our society by positively shaping the young minds of our future leaders and citizens. Teachers can make a real difference in the lives of students and their families. Early in her high school years Ms. C. Demone discovered that her calling was to teach. Later she reached the initial steps of becoming a teacher by graduating from California State University San Bernardino with a biology degree and teaching credential. She initially taught for several years in the Rialto Unified School District. In 2007 she arrived at our campus prepared to teach our students the ways of science. While at Sherman Ms. Demone has taught various science courses and has served many years as the Chair of the Science Department. One of her memorable accomplishments was starting the Environmental Science Club which is known as the G (Green) Team. Over the years the G Team has earned numerous awards in the Riverside County annual Clean Campus Competition.

Ms. Demone will be retiring from Sherman in May 2024. Click **HERE** to listen to her discuss the accomplishments of her G Teams and reminisce about her 18 year Sherman adventure.



Above. Proud students with their basket weaving projects.

## **Sherman Cultural Department**

The Sherman Cultural Department is spearheaded by Ms. Lorene Sisquoc (Fort Sill Apache/Cahuilla). She also manages the Clark Cultural Center and the Sherman Indian Museum. Already this school year the Cultural Department has offered our students classes in museum studies, basket weaving, and Cahuilla language; a grand-mother talking circle, a Pow Wow student night, a trip to Redlands University, a field trip to see the screening of the film "Indian Alley", and various arts and crafts projects (*pictured*). Future events will include the Sons and Daughters of Tradition Welcome Back Kick Ball event with dinner and a field trip to the Long Beach Aquarium.



**Above**: Busy teachers and counselors on the serving line. **Upper Right**: Manager Lisa Rivera with a tray of mac-n-cheese, a student favorite. **Lower Right**: Students waiting for lunch.

### **Open for Business**

For the first time since 2020 our student cafeteria is again operating in-house. Cafeteria Manager Lisa Rivera (pictured) and her two cafeteria staff members Richard Ray Jr. Aguilera and Sabrina Calzabo are now offering hearty meals to our student body (pictured). However, with only three cafeteria staff members the demands placed on them has at times been challenging. Fortunately, member of our Sherman Community have offered help by preparing and serving food at the cafeteria during lunch and dinner (pictured). We hope that some people will soon respond to the cafeteria job listings.

### **Cross Country**

The Sherman boys and girls cross country teams defend their Arrowhead League championships this season. Coach T. Colley welcomes back over seventy-five percent of last year's runners and expects competitive Sherman teams. Team members are eager to start the season to win medals and team trophies and continue Sherman's cross-country legacy. Some of our runners to watch this season include all Arrowhead League selections senior Richard Lopez and junior Payton Killsontop.

Click **HERE** to listen to Coach Colley and meet some of his runners.



## **Famous Sayings**

Be happy in order to live long. Worry makes you sick.

Hopi Saying

Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.

George Santayena

Don't walk behind me; I may not lead. Don't walk in front of me; I may not follow. Walk beside me that we may be as one.

Ute Saying



Above: Chef John Moreno and N. Lucas on the serving the line. Upper Right: Lunch break for our summer school students. Lower Right: Counselor K. Clifford (front), Counselor S. McMorris (back left), and teacher C. Demone about to enjoy hamburgers and fries.



Some people believe summer school is a punishment for students because students do not receive their full summer off to relax and recharge for the next school year and it shortens student summer employment time. At Sherman we believe summer school is a great opportunity for students who have fallen behind

to recover credits to graduate on time and for motivated students to take additional Sherman courses before they graduate. This year summer school commenced in mid-May with fifty-five students (pictured). Our summer school coordinator was councilor S. McMorris. She was aided by councilor K. Clifford and councilor aid J. Hunter. The summer school teachers were F. Charley-Baugus, C. Demone, M. Pockat, D. Taber, and V. Shattuck (pictured). Chef John Moreno and N. Lucas provided tasty student meals (pictured). By the conclusion of this year's summer school session 25 students had completed multiple courses and 18 students received Honor Roll certificates.









#### THE SHERMAN TIMES

is a digital publication that is linked to YouTube and provides information on Sherman Indian High School.

WEB: Sherman YouTube Videos DESIGN: Marg's Designs

#### **SHERMAN INDIAN HIGH SCHOOL**

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#### MISSION STATEMENT

The Sherman Community empowers Native students through opportunities to find their purpose at school and in life.

MIND • BODY • EMOTION • SPIRIT

Educating Native American youth since 1903