

**MONTEZUMA-CORTEZ SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1**  
**Tuesday, October 26th, 2021**  
**Montezuma-Cortez High School, 418 S. Sligo Street, Cortez, CO 81321**

**MINUTES**

**Special Board Meeting 7:00 PM**

**Indian Policies / Procedures (IPP) Meeting**

**Attendance:**

Sherri Wright, President, District C  
Sheri Noyes, Vice President, District F  
Stacey Hall, Director, District D  
Cody Wells, Director, District A

**Absent:**

Tammy Hooten, Treasurer, Director, District E

**Administration:**

Dr. Risha VanderWey-Superintendent  
Lis Richard (by Zoom) – Assistant Superintendent  
Jim Parr- Executive Director of Student Academic Services  
Cynthia Eldredge -Executive Director of Human Resources  
Trina Lee – Student Targets Support Coordinator  
Amelia Joe-Chandler – K-12 Native American Coordinator & Liaison  
Debra Ramsey- Executive Assistant to Superintendent and Board of Education

**Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Representatives:**

Chairman Manuel Hart  
Councilman Lyndreth Wall  
Councilmen Selwyn Whiteskunk  
Truancy Jeff Wilson  
UMU Education Dept. Alicia Whitehead

**1. Call to Order**

- a. The meeting was called to order by President Sherri Wright at 7:00 PM.

**2. Pledge to Flag / Introductions**

- a. The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America was led by President Sherri Wright. Each of the meeting attendees introduced themselves and named their positions.

This is the annual public meeting to discuss the equal participation of Native American children in school programs and activities.


A PowerPoint titled *Report on the Progress of American Indian Students – IPP Public Presentation – October 2021* was presented by Jim Parr, Trina Lee, and Amelia Joe-Chandler. Data presented was discussed by the attendees.

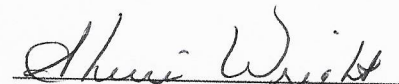
Concerns were expressed by the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe about missing data and ongoing low performance among UMU students. Letters to the RE-1 Board of Education were presented from both the Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Council and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe Education Department outlining their concerns and suggestions. Councilman Whiteskunk suggested some of the RE-1 leadership come down to Towaoc. Mrs. Wright suggested that she, Dr. VanderWey, and Director Hall all come to Towaoc to speak more with Councilman Whiteskunk. Councilman Wall praised the district for recent improvements in communication and the hiring of a Native American Liaison, Amelia Joe-Chandler. Parents in the room were advised by Mrs. Joe-Chandler of the upcoming Native American Parent Committee (PAC) meeting would be held on Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>, that the district has added an Indigenous Club Jr. at Cortez- Middle School, and that there would be 5 building Native American paraprofessionals throughout the district. Councilman Wall reported the Tribe would be hiring 4 new navigator positions to support students in Towaoc. Additional conversations pertained to concerns over one common bus stop in Towaoc and the RE-1 District D Director position and representation. Councilman Hart spoke for a need to have a true measurement of the Ute Mountain Ute students' progress and he gave the suggestion to meet more often than once a year.

President Wright adjourned the meeting at 10:22 PM.

**Next Work Session Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7:00 PM (Election Day)**

**Next Regular Board Meeting Tuesday, Nov. 16th, 7:00 PM**

  
Secretary, Board of Education

  
President, Board of Education