



GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

SACATON, AZ 85247

RESOLUTION GR-12-05

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL BOARD COALITION AS A TRIBAL ENTITY

WHEREAS, the Gila River Indian Community Council the ("Community Council") is concerned about the education of the members of the Gila River Indian Community (the "Community");

WHEREAS, the effective education of the Community's children is one of the priorities of the Community and of the Community Council;

WHEREAS, the Community together with the Community's Tribal Education Department ("TED") its eleven (11) on-reservation schools (Blackwater Community School, Casa Blanca Community School, Casa Blanca Middle School, Ira H. Hayes Memorial Applied Learning Center, Gila Crossing Community School (Elementary and middle schools), Maricopa Village Christian School, Sacaton School District (elementary and middle schools), St. Peter Indian Mission School, and Vechij Himdag MashchumakuD Alternative School (collectively, the "Schools") and their respective School Boards (collectively "Boards"), have formed a Coalition to effectively assess, monitor, and support GRIC students' education needs and progress;

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Gila River Indian Community School Board Coalition will be to promote communication and network among the Schools, and to promote and protect GRIC students' educational future by ensuring that said Schools provide quality culturally-relevant educational services; and

WHEREAS, the Coalition conducted monthly meetings for the last twenty-four (24) months and adopted formal By-laws demonstrating its legitimacy and conviction.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Community Council approves and recognizes the Coalition as a Tribal Entity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Coalition shall focus on resources and state and tribal standards for the Schools as presented by School Administrators.

RECEIVED
11/14/05
GRICSBC

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Coalition shall facilitate monthly meetings of Community, Board and TED members to develop and sustain a cohesive network of information sharing, needs assessment and strategy development that address the unique needs of Community students and their parents.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Governor, or in the Governor's absence the Lieutenant Governor is hereby authorized and directed to execute and sign all documents necessary to effectuate this Resolution.

CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to authority contained in Article XV, Section 1, (a), (5), (9), (12), (15) and Section 4 of the amended Constitution and Bylaws of the Gila River Indian Community, ratified by the Tribe January 22, 1960 and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on March 17, 1960, the foregoing Resolution was adopted this 5th day of January, 2005, at a Regular Community Council Meeting held in District 3, Sacaton, AZ, at which a quorum of 16 Members were present by a vote of: 14 FOR; 2 OPPOSE; 0 ABSTAIN; 1 ABSENT; 0 VACANCY.

GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY


GOVERNOR 1-10-05

ATTEST:


COMMUNITY COUNCIL SECRETARY

RECEIVED
BIA PIMA AGENCY
2005 JAN 11 P 3: 08
SACATON, AZ

Gila River School Board Coalition

Status Report

October 2008 to March 2009

History

The Gila River School Board Coalition was created as result of a two day reservation wide Education Visionary Conference hosted by the Gila River Education Department in 2002, under the administrative Director Gilbert Innis. Present at this conference were all schools located within the Community. Attended were teachers, school board members, parents, Governor, Lt. Governor, Children's Court Judges, Tribal Councilmen/women, students, school administrators, GRIC Education Department and the Community. The session focused on the Community's educational needs. Out of this session the School Board Coalition was born. Exhibit A

The initial School Board Coalition meeting was hosted by the Casa Blanca Elementary School at which election of officers was held.

The School Board Coalition bylaws were formally adopted on August 21, 2004, See Attachment B. Since the adoption, the bylaws has been revised and updated June 2008. Not available at this time.

The School Board Coalition was officially recognized as a Tribal Entity by the adoption of GRIC Resolution GR-12-05, See Exhibit C. The School Board Coalition focus is to promote communication and network among the schools, and to promote and protect GRIC students' educational future by ensuring schools provide quality culturally-relevant educational services.

The School Board Coalition has been active in hosting various educational affiliated concerns and or programs that impact the schools within the Gila River Indian Community's boundaries. Some of these interactions include:

- A presentation of the proposed revisions to the Truancy Ordinance presented by Children's Court Judge Jay Pedro.
- 2005, Education Department with support of the Tribal Administration hired a consultant Brad Dugan to conduct a status of how the Community Schools measured on the AIMS of the state of Arizona. School Board Coalition was not consulted to participate in this assessment. This report was rather disturbing to certain schools that voiced their concern that the report did not include the highlights of the schools. As a result of this report, the GRIC Administrative "Educational initiatives" came about.
- 2006, a meeting with Governor Rhodes took place to get a better understanding of the "Educational Initiatives. Educational initiatives include working toward finding solutions to the many problems that

plague our school systems; address educational issues such as truancy, alcohol and drug abuse, academic readiness and more.

- Streamlining a Community Wide School Calendar was initiated and adopted with the approval and support of all the School Boards.
- The School Board Coalition and the Community's leadership continues to work toward addressing common issues, behaviors, financial struggles, concerns related to the education of the student within the Community.

October 2008 to March 2009

The School Board Coalition and the Community's leadership continues to work toward addressing common issues, behaviors, financial struggles, concerns related to the education of the student within the Community.

- The Gila River School Board coalition approved the authors for school books to be purchased by the Education Department. These books are all the same for the schools within the Community to use for the elementary grade levels at all elementary and junior high schools. To consolidate the same books for all the schools is to decrease the time it takes for children to catch up when students move from school to school within the Community. Have the same books at all schools allow the student to pick up where they left off at one school.
- The Gila River School Board entertained discussions in reference to the Education Affordability Program and how certain Community Services were administering the EAP Program. The School Board Coalition voiced various examples of hardship stories and concerns of how the EAP is very much needed to assist children with clothing and supplies that promote students to stay in school. A letter was drafted to support the continuation of the EAP program for students of Gila River Indian Community.
- The School Board Coalition Bylaws were revised, restated and adopted February 2009.
- The Truancy Ordinance was presented by Judge Jay Pedro once again. A copy of the Ordinance was to be provided to each school located within the Gila River Indian Community, this has not occurred.

- The Office of Emergency Management conducted a survey and assessment of all schools located within the Gila River Indian Community and presented the GRIC School Board Coalition with the report and brought awareness to the school of the importance in how to keep the students safe by being proactive in adopting certain precautionary practices. The report also gave insight to the schools to be aware of the need to have written procedures to endorse the proper mechanisms in how to administer “Lock Down” situations. Each school is working with the OEM department in writing procedures to ensure the safety of students, staff and the school.

Goals and Objectives

The School Board Coalition has plans to meet with the Executive Office to communicate and join efforts to ensure the issues facing the schools within the Gila River Indian Community are addressed and efforts are made to move toward a stronger educated community.

The School Board Coalition discussed and plans to implement new goals and objectives for the remainder of the current Fiscal Year and will endorse various objectives for the next school year.

Re-evaluate the School Board Coalition’s relationship with the GRIC Education Department and other resources that were originally identified at the Visionary Education Conference; to set future goals in joint partnerships to increase the Community’s educational endeavors for the children and adults of Gila River Indian Community.

Closing

The Gila River School Board Coalition is represented by schools of the Gila River Indian Community and are meeting regularly every third Saturday of each month. The School Board Coalition continues to strive for the best interest of their schools, students, and the Community. The School Board Coalition invites Gila River Indian Community’s leaders to the School Board Coalition meetings.

The Gila River School Board Coalition thanks, Rodney Jackson, District Three Councilman and Arzie Hogg, District One Councilman for attending and participating at the School Board Coalition meetings; we look forward to having more involvement with the Community’s leadership, community members, parents, students, community departments and others.