

Sixth graders get inside view of Junior High



OFF TO CLASS — Junior High host Harold Shields (right) takes Warm Springs sixth grader Maury Rhoan to his first class of the day as part of the visitation program designed to acquaint prospective junior highers with the building and scheduling. Other students head their separate ways as coordinator Marie Calica looks on.

Warm Springs students entering Madras Junior High next fall may have fewer surprises in store for them as the result of a new orientation program being tried out this year. Instead of the en masse, whirlwind tours of previous years, sixth graders are getting a personalized view of a typical junior high day.

Four at a time, the students arrive at the school before classes and meet their hosts for the day. Each host then takes his visitor through his regular class schedule.

According to Community Liaison Marie Calica, who originated the program, this one-to-one orientation "better acquaints" the Warm Springs student with the school, right down to lockers and class timing.

Visitors learn that even veteran junior highers get confused now and then. One boy remarked that his host forgot his lunch money and didn't know where to get a ticket. They spent lunch time "running all over the place" to find a ticket. "It was fun," he said.

When the sixth graders first arrive at the junior high as visitors they are a bit apprehensive. The school is big and different and they don't know what to expect. But by the end of the day they're feeling pretty comfortable.

Ms. Calica sees this as an effective first step in making the transition from sixth grade to junior high. "It exposes them to the differences in classes and curriculum a little earlier," she says. They become acquainted in advance

with students and teachers as well as with the building and scheduling.

"It takes a little of the fear away and adds to the excitement of getting over here as seventh graders," remarks Marie.

Another advantage is that the Liaison has come to know the sixth graders on an individual basis while shuttling them between the two towns for their visitations.

Since this is an experiment, Ms. Calica will be conducting an evaluation of the program when it concludes this month. She is particularly interested in the reactions of the students themselves.

So far she has found them to be enthusiastic. Not only the sixth graders, but the junior high students, too. "Some kids are asking to be hosts," says Marie.

Perhaps next fall will find Warm Springs seventh graders less confused and more confident as they fill the halls of Madras Junior High.



Kevin Blueback, Ron Clements and Clint Jacks



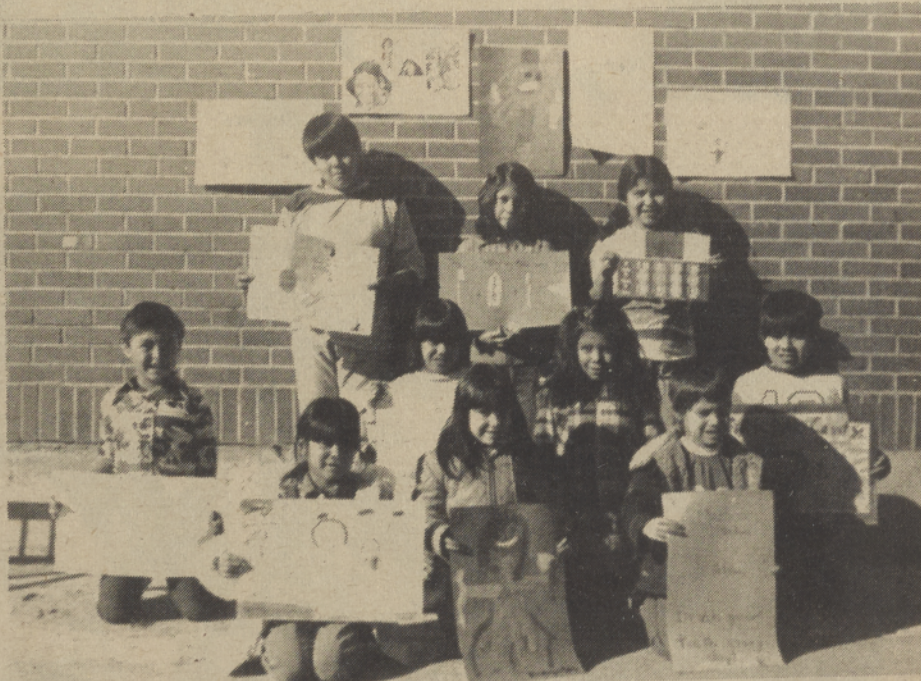
SIXTH GRADER Sandra Shike takes a look at a Junior High textbook in her hostess Kathryn Danzuka's home-ec class. Sandra accompanied Kathryn to all her classes during her day of visitation to the Junior High.

Photo by Cynthia Stowell



MAURY RHOAN expresses interest in his host Harold Shields' trumpet during band class. Maury's day of visitation at the Junior High included a mad scramble for a lunch ticket — "it was fun," he said.

Photo by Cynthia Stowell



WINNERS OF THE Dental Poster contest display their decorative message and their toothy smiles. The theme of the ISH-sponsored contest was "Be The Boss, Brush And Floss." From left to right are (front row) Becky Hunt, June Keplin, and Sheldon Minnick, (second row) Dalton Trimble, Stacey Nasewytewa, Minnie Kennedy, and Jason Palmer, (last row) Roman Suppah, Raynele Palmer and Wynona Leonard. Other winning pictures on the wall were done by Ellison David, Denise Brunoe, Tammy Smith, Carl Tewee and Kenny Sahme, who couldn't be present for the picture.

Photo by Cynthia Stowell