

New vice principal tackles attendance, discipline

by Roger Stwyer

Janet Dobery, 30, already a familiar face at Madras Junior High, has found herself busy in the first few weeks of school as new vice-principal.

Prior to Janet's appointment, John Sebastian was the vice-principal. Sebastian is now principal of the Royal City High School in Royal City, Washington.

Attendance and discipline are what Dobery says keep her busy. "My biggest concern is getting kids in school and keeping them here," she said.

A math teacher of eight years at Ickef Junior High School in the North Clackamas School district, Dobery was also principal and assistant principal for four years at the summer school which had 480 students.

At Madras, Dobery said she finds herself working continuously on attendance and discipline, while at Ickef she was more involved with curriculum work. She tries to call the parents or guardian of all the students who are absent to see if they have an excuse or should be in school. "I try to pinpoint kids who are skipping school," Dobery said.

With the new district

attendance policy, Dobery sees possibly more students being suspended from school which she doesn't fully agree with. "I would certainly like to try my best to get them (students) here every day," said Dobery, noting that 68 of last year's seventh grade missed 30 or more days of school, which could mean that they could be expelled from school.

Miss Dobery's major discipline problem has been with students not cooperating. In the student handbook, it is called 'defiant' and students can be suspended for it.

Still getting settled into her job, Dobery says she wants to do what is expected and "do the best I can. People are very friendly and really seem to care about your welfare," she said, "I appreciate that."

She came to Central Oregon because it had many things to offer culturally and "it looked like to me it would all fit together eventually."

Dobery has a bachelor's degree from Portland State University and a Master's at Lewis and Clark State College.

Her number at school is 475-3131.



NEW VICE-PRINCIPAL—Jan Dobery, Madras Junior High vice-principal chats with Joseph Jackson, a Warm Springs student in the library. Since starting work, Dobery says she's been really having fun. *Spilyay Tymoo Photo by Stwyer*

School calendar

October 9	Jr. High gym will be open from 7-9. Students must be accompanied by a parent to be admitted.
October 11	Simnasho school visit to Lone Pine School and track meet.
October 12	No school. Teacher in-service day.
October 25	Picture taking for Warm Springs Elementary and Simnasho school at Warm Springs.
October 19	Homecoming game at Madras High School. Madras vs Nyssa at 8 p.m.
October 31	Halloween dance at Warm Springs school gym. (This is tentative.)
November 2	First quarter of school over. Students will be dismissed early.
November 9	Parent/Teacher conference day. No school.
November 12	No school. Veterans Day.
November 21, 22, 23	Thanksgiving vacation.

Continued from page 7

not to know the applicants or their ties to the tribes. For the last referendum **Spilyay Tymoo** printed pictures and profiles of the applicants and previously mailings, postings and meetings introduced them to the voters. Even with such information available many applicants feel that their membership is subject to the uninformed whims of whoever turns out to vote. Another problem encountered by current chairman Gene Greene is the failure of applicants to provide some personal information that is crucial to decision-making. Generally there are no hitches in the process, he added.

The decision in 1974 to use the 1940 census roll as a base list for membership and blood degree has been problematic to some, but the Vital Stat Department has gone out of its way to respond to challenges and correct the list. Resolution No. 4301 also provided for the preparation of an updated base roll, to be posted for a year to give people an opportunity to dispute it. Three years later it is still not final, but the roll is in the wrap-up stages. "Madeline has done a magnificent job in pulling it all together," said Panner.

Madeline has also used a 1902 allotment list as an

important research tool, recognizing that no one document is going to have all the answers. Poor record-keeping and a lot of hearsay prior to official enrollments in the thirties have cut out Madeline's work for her. And yet, blood quantum proves to be the most clearcut part of the whole enrollment procedure.

Worth the hassles

The amount of paperwork involved in even an "automatic" enrollment, the risk of embarrassment in an adoption referendum—people are willing to endure it all to get their children enrolled. There must be very compelling reasons for desiring membership.

The financial benefits are obvious. Per capita payments of \$75 a month and bonuses up to \$1,200 are difficult to ignore. The opportunity to participate in shaping the reservations' future is another appeal. But for most applicants, it goes beyond the tangibles into the realm of pride and identity. To have a place called home, to be officially identified with a particular group of Indian people can mean a great deal to a child and his parents. Membership in the Confederated tribes does not guarantee respect or success—but it can help.

From the high school counselor

Attendance policy aims at early intervention

I must apologize for not writing articles sooner for the paper due to class scheduling and other duties here at the high school.

These articles are designed to inform the community what occurs at the high school and general thoughts about student difficulties one may encounter.

The High School Indian Club will be forming a Parent Resource group whose purpose is to aid in planning and development of the club goals for the school year. This is needed so parents, elders and other interested adults can

work closely with Indian Club to create a positive feeling about being an Indian within the Warm Springs community and at Madras Senior High School. Those interested in becoming a part of the Indian Club please do not hesitate to be involved with our youth.

The new attendance policy is having quite an effect, with administrators, teachers, counselors, parents and students knowing immediately what's happening. Many parents feel angry that five-day notices are being sent. Yet, the counselors and community liaisons are efficiently handling

each case before absenteeism becomes chronic.

At the high school our procedure is whenever a notice is sent to the parent, a copy is forwarded to me, whereupon Papo Cruz and I talk to each student, letting him know what procedures had taken place and what the consequences will be if the absenteeism continues. Parents are also given the same information. When ten-day notices are sent, a parent/student conference can be held with the Vice Principal and the counselor so a plan can be developed to alleviate attendance difficulties.

Students make plans anyway

Parents fail to show for club meeting

Of fourteen parents invited to meet with the Madras High School Indian Club last night (Thursday) only three showed.

The meeting was called by the club to form a Parent Advisory Committee to give the Indian Club new direction and guidance. Last year because of poor conduct that occurred at some activities, rumors began to fly that did some harm to the club and advisor. The purpose of the committee would be for cultural advice and to provide resource people whenever needed to give guidance and direction in fulfilling club goals. They will serve as chaperones on trips too.

At last night's meeting, some projects put on the drawing board were: to sell baked goods at the upcoming rummage sale at the community center and to have a car wash at the same time; to hold a Halloween dance at the grade school gym, with tickets selling for 75 cents in advance and \$1.25 at the

door; and to sell fried bread at the Homecoming football game against Nyssa October 19. The club will also have concessions at one of the varsity basketball games.

Other ideas that were discussed as possible money-making projects were to have disco and war dances; concession stands; bottle drives; and T-shirt sales.

In a brief discussion, it was learned that only a handful of the club's members take part in planned fund raising projects.

Many thought that it was unfair a few take charge and run everything. But when it came time to actually do a project, many who said they would be there to help didn't show and caused some confusion. Pinkham hopes for more participation from Indian students in all activities.

An Indian history class is also in the works. Pinkham explained that the class would be for all students to gain a

better understanding of the Warm Springs Reservation. He said that even though there's only 14 miles between us it often seems like 100. And people never come over to Warm Springs, he said. On their way to the valley they speed on through and continue to know nothing about Warm Springs.

The Indian Club will be sponsoring the 1980 Indian Youth Leadership Conference in the first week of May. The conference is to bring different clubs from throughout the Northwest together to get familiar with one another and become good friends. Plans are already forming for the conference.

After the Parent Advisory Committee is formed the club would like to meet with them at least once a month. If you are interested in becoming involved with Indian Club activities contact Ron Pinkham at the high school, 475-6566.