

109 students enrolled in summer school

Summer school, which started its first session June 16 and finished July 8, has a total of 109 students enrolled, nearly double from last year. Funded through the Johnson O'Malley Act, the school gives students an opportunity to make up failed courses.

The school is held at the Warm Springs Grade School and started the second three week session July 10. Students attending range from the grade school level to high school.

The idea of having a summer school, originally intended for high school students, came about when members of the Johnson O'Malley parent advisory committee were

thinking how they could help more Indian students get their high school diploma. The first school was held in 1977 and has to include all grade levels. And the program has helped many students since, often making the difference for seniors who needed only half or quarter of a credit to graduate.

Most high school students are required to attend if they received a failing grade in a required class. With Madras High School switching to a six period day (from seven) the number of classes a student can fail has been reduced. This is a possible explanation why the number of students attending the summer school program

has grown.

Elementary students attend summer school if the parent feels he should be there or by teacher recommendation.

Utilizing regular district teachers, the school offers reading, writing, and math, personal finance, U.S. history, and world today, for high school students. And art class which is open to everybody is offered, but no grade is given.

Each three week session a student can earn one-half a credit. But that also depends on how much work a student did in a school year in the class he failed. If the teacher feels he should attend the summer school for six weeks to obtain that half credit he most likely will. Most students now enrolled in the class need only three weeks to receive the half credit.

Probably the best thing about summer school is earning a half credit in three weeks is better than having to go to school for 18 weeks (one semester).

But there's also quite a few assignments a student must complete in that short three weeks; and that's why an attendance policy has been written up. A student can't miss more than two days, otherwise he is automatically dropped. Excessive tardies will have the same results. Summer school director Art Tassie, explains this is because there's no way a student can make it up in the short time of school.

So far eight students have been dropped, for attendance reasons. Those students dropped are allowed back into the second session unless they were required to take both sessions.

Students who are working in the summer work program and going to school are paid for it.

But if a student misses school, he doesn't have to report to work because he won't be paid for it.

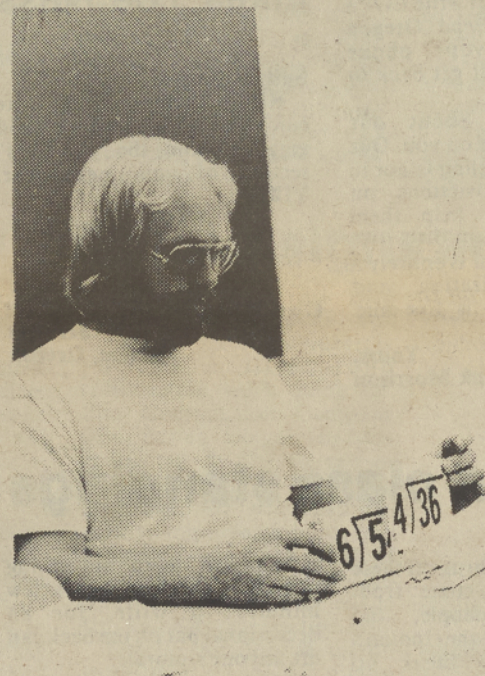
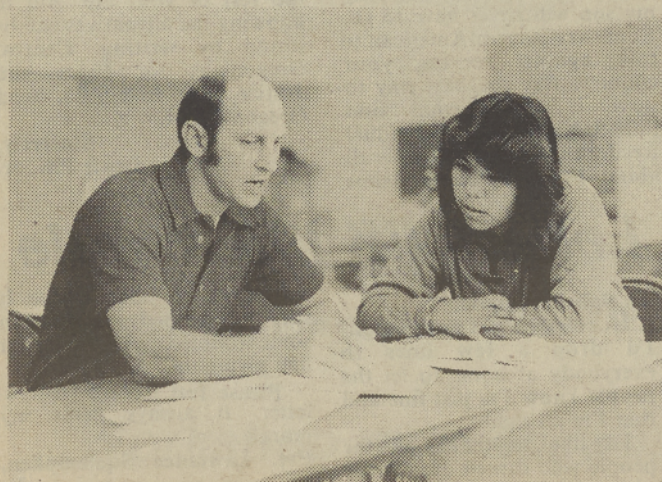
Besides making up credits, the school has plans for a picnic, water skiing, and the elementary students will visit the fish hatchery. Although not definite plans, things are being worked out.

With the summer school now in its fourth year, it looks like it will be a part of many Indian students as long as the federal monies hold out. If not, the Career Exploration Program, a tribal program, offers students a chance to get their diploma also.

The school will be held daily, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., until July 31. Art Tassie is directing the program and Ned Hurtado is community liaison.

Text by Roger Stwyer

Photos by Roger Stwyer and Marsha Shewczyk



(Top left) Joie Johnson receives math instruction from Mr. Terry Gray at the summer school session. (Center left) Mr. Robin Gerke shows Jacus Martinez the correct way to make a braided key chain during the art class held daily. (Upper right) Math is a subject that needs practice continuously before improvement is seen. Mr. Dannon Kroessin helps John Marcum with the use of flash cards. (Bottom left) Summer session allows more personalized instruction. Teacher Laura Fuentes works with Essie Lawson and Preston Haskie. (Lower right) Artistry is in his bones. Joe Martinez often attends the art session improving his talents in the many facets of art, from leatherwork to painting.

