

Chemawa students prepare for change

(AP) - After four years of federal education reforms, major changes are coming to the Chemawa Indian Boarding School in Salem.

Next year, the school's focus will shift to becoming a college preparatory academy, the latest makeover in a 125-year history of shifting mission statements. Chemawa administrators are

embarking on the latest change without a guarantee of new federal money.

"We'll still teach every kid that walks in our door," said supervisor Larry Byers. "We'll hold them to a higher commitment of learning."

The change is just the most recent for the school, which has gone from mandated assimila-

tion of Indian children in 1880 to providing an alternative education in 2005.

Considered a "failing" school under the federal No Child Left Behind Act, Chemawa will attempt to create a "leadership academy" in the next several years.

The school plans to lengthen the academic day and require

study hours in the evenings.

Chemawa will also seek more partnerships with local community and four-year colleges to create dual-credit classes and help ease students' transitions.

But the school intends to remain a place for students who cannot thrive in traditional high schools.

Head Start taking applications

Head Start is taking applications for the Head Start 2005-06 school year. Head Start is offering 3- to 4-year-olds a pre-school experience. Head Start provides children with activities to grow mentally, socially, emotionally and physically, as well as giving them kindergarten readiness.

For registration, please be prepared to present the following: verification of income, birth certificate or tribal letter, physical and immunization papers, custody or placement papers. We will need all of the paperwork in before the child is selected for the school year. For information: Jodi Orr or Shirelle Thomas, 553-3242.

Horse club hosting dance to raise funds

The Rockin' 4-H Club of Warm Springs, along with the Riders of the Confederated Tribes, both youth equestrian clubs from Warm Springs, will host a dance this Friday, March 4, from 7 to 11 p.m. at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds.

Proceeds go toward helping send 12 riders from the clubs on a trip to Southern California March 16 to 21.

While on the trip, the clubs will participate in a parade in San Juan Capistrano, Calif.

A disc jockey will play dance music, and pizza and fry bread will be sold, as will Pepsi drinks. Admission is \$4.

The group will camp out at the O'Niel Ranch during the trip, and Methodist churches in the area will help provide meals to the group. Chris Buller, the Rockin' 4-H leader, is youth pastor at the United Methodist Church of Madras.

The Los Angeles County Fire Department is also participating in the group's outing in Southern California, in helping arrange meals, arrange logistics, and, in providing the San Juan Capistrano fire hall, giving the group from Warm Springs what he called a "safe spot" as a base during parade and festivities.

To participate in the trip, the students had to take part in group activities, maintain a 2.0 grade-point average in school, and fulfill a behavior contract, both at school and at home,

Buller said.

"We'd like to do something like this every year," Buller, who started the Rockin' 4-H Club in April last year, said.

His group has rode in two parades since its beginning, Pi-Ume-Sha in Warm Springs and at the July 4 parade in Madras last year.

Buller said he has been working to arrange for a chaplain from U.S. Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton to bring Austin Smith, Jr., of Warm Springs, who is currently stationed at the base, to join the Warm Springs group for breakfast and either walk or ride in the parade.

Buller said he had been to the parade in San Juan Capistrano before, and that his wife knows people involved in the parade's organization. Through talking with different people, Buller got in touch with Glenn Laub, fire captain of the Los Angeles Fire Department, and Dr. Peter Czuleger, an emergency room physician and horse enthusiast.

Czuleger's home is on the gated Three Arch Bay near Laguna Beach, and, Buller said, the doctor has provided for the group from Warm Springs to meet a group of kids from the area for some fun in a beach where scenes from movies have been shot.

"We wanted to make it a whole Southern California experience for the kids," Buller said.

"It's a chance for the kids to meet a lot of different people who have a passion for horses," Buller said. He said he also wanted the group to meet people who he said "care about youth," no matter where they come from.

In turn, Buller said people outside the reservation have been encouraged by the efforts of the club.

"A lot of people have been touched by the reservation and the youth," he said. "There are a lot of people who care about them."

Jason Smith, manager of the Confederated Tribes' Range and Agricultural Department and a noted local horseman, has offered to transport the club's horses to Southern California, and Butch David, the tribal community liaison at Jefferson County Middle School and a horseman, is also making the trip south. While the group is in Southern California, the group will auction off the horses at O'Niel Ranch it rides to good homes.

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Youth invited to submit artwork for contest

The Warm Springs Housing Authority is seeking artwork from youth of the local community. The coloring contest, on the theme of fire prevention, is in conjunction with Amerind.

There will be prizes for the poster winners. There are three divisions: K-third grade; fourth through sixth; and sev-

enth and eighth.

Artwork can be submitted to the Housing office at 1238 Veterans Way. Deadline is April 22. Paper size: 8 and half by eleven inches. Paper is available at the Housing office.

Any questions, call Housing at 553-3250, or stop by.

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