Impact Aid: parents discuss district matters

(Continued from page 1)

The analysis (partially reproduced below) shows that close to a third of the direct expenditures are for Native students.

This was based on the percentage of students at a particular school, and the amount of direct expenditures at the school. For instance:

Total direct expenditures in 2013 for all students at Madras High was school was about $7.4 million. The Native students made up 29 percent of the total, so the allocation to the Native students would be about $2.18 million. Or about $8,313 in general fund expenditure per student.

Tribal Councilman Kahseuss Jackson commented that this analysis does not really give a determination of actual amounts spent on the Native students. "It may be close, and I'm not saying it's inequitable, but you can't really tell," he said.

Molitor said that a more detailed analysis of actual amounts spent on Native American students would require a considerable expenditure of resources, which would not seem practical. "Should we hire another accountant, or another teacher?" he said.

Aurolyn Stwyer brought up the matter of students having to walk to the Academy along roads that have no sidewalks and that could be dangerous.

Molitor said the district is working on the problem. A solution require designating the area around the school as an "unsafe zone." The state would then be able to fund buses for the students living within a mile, or mile and a half of the school (depending on the student's age).

Some other stated concerns from the meeting:

Deanie Smith said the schools situation is mostly same as it was 30 years ago. "It doesn't seem like it's getting any better," she said. "Without some change, we'll be here 30 years from now having the same discussion."

Marge Kalama said the incidence of student dropout leaves young people on the reservation who are unable to get a job. "We have jobs here, but the kids can't meet the qualifications."

Vivian Smith, an education assistant at the Academy, said the ROOTS alternative education program in Warm Springs is doing great things for young people.

Academy teacher Ervanna Little Eagle said the availability of counseling is important, as some students are dealing with historical trauma. Social and emotional issues are reasons why some students drop out, she said.

The school district also presented information on the draft evaluation report on the district Title VII Indian Education Program. The report shows improvements in some areas, and areas that need more attention *(see the next Spilyay.)* The Impact Aid and Title VII information is available at the district website, jcsd.k12.us.or

JEFFERSON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 509-J
INDIAN CHILDREN EXPENDITURES AND IMPACT AID REVENUE
FY 13-14

Direct Education Expenses allocated to Indian Students:

School	General Fund Expenditures	Special Revenue Funds Expenditures	Total Direct Expenditures	Indian Student Enrollment as of October 1, 2013	Allocation of Expenditures to Indian student	General Fund Expenditure per Student	Special Revenue Fund Expenditure per Student	Total Expenditure per Student
1 Madras High School	6,442,292	965,984.88	7,408,277	29%	2,179,467	8,312.64	1,246.43	$ 9,559.07
2 Jefferson County Middle School	4,698,734	1,711,870	6,410,604	41%	2,632,568	7,364.79	2,683.18	$ 10,047.97
3 Madras Primary	3,114,405	503,749	3,618,155	12%	435,203	7,345.30	1,188.09	$ 8,533.38
4 Warm Springs Elementary	3,404,483	774,342	4,178,825	98%	4,106,464	7,369.01	1,676.06	$ 9,045.08
5 Buff	2,351,888	605,948	2,957,836	8%	230,361	7,326.76	1,887.69	$ 9,214.44
6 Metolius	2,311,077	242,030	2,553,107	8%	208,587	7,552.54	790.95	$ 8,343.49
				Total Direct Costs	9,792,651			

Cougars youth tourney coming up

The Warm Springs Cougars 13-and-under and 10-and-under co-ed basketball tournament is set for December Friday-Sunday, Dec. 26-28, at the Warm Springs Community Center.

The tourney is open to the first six teams in each division. Contact Austin Greene for details: 541-553-1953 or 553-3243.

In other Warm Springs Recreation Department news:

Recreation will host **Christmas NDN Night Out** on Monday, Dec. 22 at the Community Center. Bring your favorite dish for a 5:30 potluck, with the social dance and drummers jam starting at 6:30.

Simnasho planning to ring in New Year with powwow

The Simnasho New Year's Eve Celebration and Powwow will start with potluck at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 31.

Washat starts at 7 and traditional powwow, social dancing and games start at 7:30.

Specials are Mother and Baby in Baby Board Recognition, Men's Round Bustle, and Musical Bench Championship of the World. The Clown Dance contest is at 11 p.m. Cash prize for first, second and third.

Midnight: time to welcome the New Year with song and lay new footprints around the longhouse.

Everyone is welcome to this family event, sponsored by the members Simnasho community. For more information contact Captain, 541-553-7014.

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WARM SPRINGS TELECOM

*Check **KWSO.org** for the latest W.S. news!*

Power and Water: looking at renewables in 2015

(Continued from page 1)

"We have spent most of our time looking up near Mt. Jefferson for a geothermal potential," Manion said.

The potential looks promising, but the logistics to advancing this potential in that area of the reservation are challenging, he said.

It is a remote area, and obtaining access could be very expensive. The environmental requirements would be costly just to explore.

"For those reasons we have shifted our attention to the Warm Springs River basin area," Manion said. "As the name 'Warm Springs' implies, there may be something in the area that deserves more review."

Power and Water is working with a very experienced geothermal developer headquartered in Nevada.

"We have sampled the hot water spring at the Village, and the elements contained in that sample are very interesting. They seem to display characteristics of both low temperature and high temperature resource potentials."

The $320,000 grant will help to further the review. The area of focus is up around the fish hatchery on the Warm Springs River.

Solar

The other potential renewable that Power and Water has been reviewing is solar.

"Everyone has seen the small 200-kilowatt plant down around the Credit office," Manion said. "That was installed by an outside developer who approached the tribes last year. He installed the system using a federal tax incentive, again not available to the tribes."

With that incentive the developer will get the plant to pay him back over the next 14 years, a fairly good payback timeline. After that the plant will be turned over to the tribes.

In the meantime the tribes receive a portion of the revenue generated, in the form of an annual lease payment.

The solar potential is fairly good, Manion said, but the cost to install and the current rate the utility is willing to pay are not synced. This means it would cost more to build than the tribes would receive for the sale of the energy.

"We hope that Congress will renew the incentives to advance renewables, and we hope that Congress recognizes that these incentives should be structured to allow tribes to advance their own resource without having to rely on outside developers to build. We continue to watch this market and plan on being ready to present opportunities to the Tribal Council when the timing is right."

Calving school on Thursday

In preparation for the springs 2015 calving season, OSU Extension livestock specialists and veterinarians invite the Warm Springs and Central Oregon livestock community to calving school this Thursday, Dec. 11, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Central Oregon Agricultural Research Center in Madras.

For more information call OSU Extension in Warm Springs at 541-553-3238.

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In advance of College events, persons needing accommodation or transportation because of a physical or mobility disability, contact Joe Viola 541.383.7779. For accommodation because of other disability such as hearing impairment, contact Annie Jenkins 541.383.7743.

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