

An education success story

After Jaren Wallulatum graduated from high school in 2014 he enrolled at a college in his home state of Oregon, uncertain what career path to pursue. And like many first-generation students, he wasn't sure where to go for support as he started his college experience.

"For myself, it was difficult being new to higher education," Jaren was saying recently. "I didn't know where to look for the resources I needed to succeed."

Jaren would transfer to another college before leaving school to enter the workforce and moving to the state of Washington. Two years later, he gave college another try—only this time with the support he had earlier lacked.

That helping hand came from Yakima Valley College's TRIO Student Support Services. This is a federally-funded program providing low-income and first-generation students with academic support services such as tutoring, assistance with education plans, personal and career counseling, book loans and more.

"Finding TRIO made a huge difference for me in navigating the higher education system," Jaren said.

Last year Jaren graduated from Yakima Valley College and is now majoring in economics and public policy at Central Washington University. "It helped build a network of peers, instructors and college staff who I can reach out to for help," he says.

Over the next five years, hundreds of Yakima Valley College students like Jaren will benefit from access to additional financial support, mentoring, tutoring services and academic advising thanks to a recent \$1.8 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education that



Jaren Wallulatum at the Yakima Valley College graduation ceremony, 2019.

Jaren is now interested in studying how his tribe and other tribes can maximize the resources on reservations for the benefit of those living on them.

will extend the college's TRIO program.

TRIO helps Yakima Valley students overcome class, social and cultural barriers to higher education, said program director Dustin Shattuck.

And in taking down those barriers, TRIO ultimately helps increase students' academic success, graduation rates and likelihood of transferring to four-year institutions.

"TRIO works because it serves a population—first-generation, low-income students—who don't usually know how to navigate college," Shattuck said.

"A lot of these students have been through a lot of adversity, but when they have access to some of

these resources to succeed, you really see them blossom."

In each of the next five years, 200 students will be supported through the colleges TRIO program, with individual students being served from one to three years depending on their academic pathway.

While financial aid programs help students overcome financial barriers to accessing higher education, Shattuck says TRIO's services focus on empowering students to succeed in their educational journeys.

For example, students participate in a learning community from the beginning of their time at Yakima Valley in order to build networks of peer support.

They also have coursework supplemented with advising and mentoring aligned with their career goals, and the college offers workshops and field trips on financial literacy, financial aid and scholarship applications, career and worksite awareness, cultural awareness and planning for transfer.

"Our program focuses on engaging with students around their career intentions and the bridge that education plays in attaining these careers," Mr. Shattuck said.

At the end of Jaren's first year at Yakima Valley, he and handful of other students in the program were approached by their advisor about starting a peer mentoring and leadership program.

"That was an experience that really helped build our leadership and professional skills because we were in charge of planning a lot of activities for our peers and their growth," he said. Following that leadership experience, Jaren would go on to serve as Yakima Valley College Student Council president.

He is scheduled to complete his bachelor's degree in 2022, and then enter Central Washington University's graduate program in cultural and environmental resources management.

Jaren grew up on the Warm Springs Indian Reservation. He is interested in studying how his tribe and other tribes can maximize the resources on reservations for the benefit of those living on them.

"TRIO helps inspire students to continue to go further in education and in their careers," Jaren said.

"Those connections you make are life and career connections you can continue to reach out to. There are still friends I made who I talk to on a daily basis and I know that I can reach out to them anytime for assistance and I know that I can reach out to the faculty anytime in the future."

For more information about Yakima Valley College's TRIO Student Support Services visit: yvcc.edu/services/sss/

Michele Stacona, Secretary-Treasurer/CEO:

- Motion by Glendon approving the October business agenda. Second by Anita; Glendon/Yes, Joe/Yes, Anita/Yes, Delvis/Yes, Jay/Yes, Wilson/Yes; 6/0/0, Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

- Motion by Glendon amending the business agenda. October 5 items will be rescheduled for October 9. Second by Anita; Glendon/Yes, Joe/Yes, Anita/Yes, Delvis/Yes, Jay/Yes, Wilson/Yes; 6/0/0, Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

- Motion by Delvis approving the October travel dates, subject to change. Second by Anita; Glendon/Yes, Joe/Yes, Anita/Yes, Delvis/Yes, Wilson/Abstain; Jay/Yes, 5/0/1, Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

- Draft resolutions with Michele:

- Motion by Brigitte adopting Resolution No. 12,729 appointing Raymond as the voting Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians voting delegate, and Anita as the alternate. Second by Glendon; Question; Glendon/Yes, Joe/Yes, Brigitte/Yes, Anita/Yes; Jay/Yes, 5/0/0, Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

- The Resolution for Warm Springs Financial

Academy advocacy, leadership classes

The Warm Springs Academy Twenty-First Century Community Learning Center invites seventh- and eighth-grade students and families to leadership and advocacy classes.

The classes are done virtually online, beginning this Thursday, October 22. The classes are in partnership with Papalaxsimisha.

Classes will be from 4 to 5:30 p.m. on Google Meet. There will be eight sessions. Register by calling 541-475-0388. Or go to: bit.ly/3iAmyVc

High school seniors drive

Madras High School seniors are raising funds for their All Night Party at the end of the school year. A scrap metal drive this month will go toward this worthy cause.

Gather your scrap metal, and bring it Ira's Metal Recycling in Madras. You can drop off any time up to October 30.

The scrap metal drive



includes items like bent wheel lines, copper or aluminum, old cars or appliances, etc.

For more information call Lisa at 541-325-1537.



PAPALAXSIMISHA COMMUNITY NETWORK

Meetings happen every 1st Thursday of each month

THURSDAY NOV 5
THURSDAY DEC 3

6:00-7:30 PM

This space is to discuss our educational needs, wants and resources for all indigenous students, families, and communities while keeping our health, wellness, healing and empowerment in mind as we do this work.

For more info contact
Jaylyn or Jillisa Suppah
<https://www.facebook.com/papalaxsimisha>

Strategies LLC Management Committee is tabled.

- Indian Head Casino dividend payment:

- Motion by Glendon:

The Warm Springs Casino

Board agreed to increase the

2021 dividend to \$1.6 million

with approval of the amortization

schedule change to the equity loan

which states that payments in 2021

will be \$200,000 plus interest per

month. That will be reduced to

\$150,000 plus interest per month.

This will extend the amortization

schedule and an updated schedule

was provided. Second by Brigitte;

Glendon/Yes, Joe/Yes, Brigitte/Yes,

Anita/Yes, Delvis/Yes, Jay/Yes, 6/0/0,

Chairman not voting; Motion

carried.

- Motion by Brigitte to ad-

journal at 12:15 p.m.

October 12, 2020

The meeting was called to

order at 9 a.m. by Chairman

Raymond Tsumpti Sr. Roll call: Chief

Delvis Heath, Raymond (Captain) Moody,

Chairman Tsumpti Sr., Wilson

Wewa Jr., Lincoln Jay Suppah (morning),

Anita Jackson, Glendon Smith,

Vice Chair Brigitte McConville and

Chief Joseph Moses. Minnie Yahtin,

Recorder.

- **Restoration Project/**

Expenditure Plan with Natural Resources

general manager Robert Brunoe.

- **Governmental Affairs**

update with Louie Pitt.

- **Covid-19 Response**

Team update with Health and Human Services general

manager Caroline Cruz.

- **Purchasing** update with Libby Chase, director.

- **Development Office** update with director Bruce Irwin.

- **Human Resources** update with director Cheryl Tom.

- **The Museum At Warm Springs** update with director Elizabeth Woody.

- **Administrative Services** update with Michele Stacona, Secretary-Treasurer/CEO.

- **Finance** update with Alfred Estimo Jr.

- Motion by Captain to adjourn at 3:55 p.m.

October 13

The meeting was called to

order at 9:14 a.m. Vice Chair-

man Brigitte McConville. Roll call: Raymond (Captain)

Moody, Lincoln Jay Suppah,

Wilson Wewa Jr., Anita Jackson,

Chief Delvis Heath, Chief Joseph

Moses and Glendon Smith. Minnie

Yahtin, Recorder.

- **Education** update with branch

Valerie Switzler.

- **Human Resources** up-

date with general branch manager

Caroline Cruz.

- **Natural Resources** up-

date with branch general Robert

Brunoe.

- **Public Safety** update

with branch general manager

Carmen Smith.

- **Public Utilities** update

with general manager Travis

Wells.

- **Tribal Court** update with

Chief Judge Lisa Lomas.

- Motion by Captain to ad-

journal at 2:25 p.m.

Summaries of Tribal Council

The following are summaries of late September and early to mid October meetings of the Tribal Council of the Confederated Tribes:

September 29

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Chairman Raymond Tsumpti Sr. Roll call: Chief Delvis Heath, Lincoln Jay Suppah, Chief Alfred Smith Jr., Vice Chair Brigitte McConville, Wilson Wewa Jr., Raymond (Captain) Moody, Glendon Smith, Chief Joseph Moses. Minnie Yahtin, Recorder.

- **CoHo Connect Hospitality Services** meet and greet with Brett Wilkerson, chief executive officer, and senior leadership.

- **Government-to-Government** meeting with U.S. Attorney's Office Billy Williams and Tim Simmons.

- Conrad Granito, general manager Muckleshoot Casino, meet and greet.

Letters of Intent:

- Motion by Anita authorizing the Chairman to sign the Letter of Intent with Mr. Granito. Second by Brigitte; Question/ 6/0/1, Captain/ abstains. Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

- Motion by Glendon

authorizing the Chairman to sign the Letter of Intent with CoHo Services. Second by Brigitte; Question; 6/0/2, Captain and Jay abstain. Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

- Cares Act business grant discussion with Howie Arnett and Wendy Pearson.

- 2021 budget with Finance, Alfred Estimo Jr. and Dennis Johnson:

- Budget discussions will continue on September 30.

- Motion by Brigitte to adjourn at 4:20 p.m.

September 30

The meeting was called to order at 9:15 a.m. by Chairman Raymond Tsumpti Sr. Roll call: Chief Delvis Heath, Chief Joseph Moses, Vice Chair Brigitte McConville, Lincoln Jay Suppah, Glendon Smith, Anita Jackson, Wilson Wewa Jr. Minnie Yahtin, Recorder.

2021 tribal organization budget discussion with Finance, Alfred Estimo Jr. and Dennis Johnson.

- Request by the Secretary-Treasurer to reconsider budget reductions for: Purchasing, Probate, Vital Stats, Records and Legal Aid. Glendon/Yes, Joe/No, Anita/Yes, Delvis/No, Jay/Yes, Wilson/Yes; 4/yes, 2/

No; Reconsideration is granted and there will be no budget reductions for 2021.

- Governmental Affairs is included in the reconsideration.

- Enrollments with Lucille Suppah-Samson, Vital Statistics director:

- Motion by Anita adopting Resolution No. 12,727 enrolling (20) individuals. Second by Glendon; Glendon/Yes, Joe/Yes, Anita/Yes, Delvis/Yes, Jay/Yes, Wilson/Yes, 6/0/0, Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

- Motion by Wilson adopting Resolution No. 12,728 approving an individual's request to relinquish, so he can enroll in the Morongo Band of Mission Indians. Second by Anita; Glendon/Yes, Joe/Yes, Anita/Yes, Delvis/Yes, Jay/Yes, Wilson/Yes, 6/0/0, Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

- 2021 budget continued with Alfred and Dennis:

- Motion by Anita to post the proposed 2021 Budget as read into record. Second by Glendon; Glendon/Yes, Joe/Yes, Anita/Yes, Delvis/Yes, Jay/Yes, Wilson/Yes; 6/0/0, Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

- October agenda with