



NEWS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

**OFFICE OF THE
ASSISTANT SECRETARY - INDIAN AFFAIRS**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SHOSHONE-BANNOCK, FORT HALL, IDAHO

DEDICATES

NATIVE AMERICAN ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL

Ada E. Deer, Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs announces the dedication of a new Jr/Sr High School at Fort Hall, Idaho for the Shoshone-Bannock.

Federal, state and tribal agencies worked cooperatively to provide funding for the construction of this new school. The school is designed in traditional motif and is considered one of the most beautiful educational facilities in the State of Idaho. The facility will offer state-of-the-art equipment, resources, and instruction for the Fort Hall Indian Community.

"It is with deep regret that I will not be able to attend the dedication of the Shoshone-Bannock Jr/Sr High School on the 6th., but a prior commitment to attend a meeting with the Alaska Inter-Tribal Council prevents me from being there," Ms. Deer said. "I congratulate the Fort Hall Indian Community on their efforts to make a dream come true for their Indian children. The school's design sounds as if it will establish a comfortable, conducive learning environment for them. As a social worker I have always placed a priority on the health, welfare, and education of our Indian children. The dedication and commitment in constructing this school which will provide state-of-the-art educational opportunities must be commended. The present investment of time, energy, and money will reap many future returns for your community in terms of the students that leave your school, that become well adjusted productive adults - Indian adults that will in turn contribute to the continued success of your Indian community. I will be in Alaska during the dedication of your new school, but my spirit and thoughts will be with you throughout the day. May your new school be successful, forever."

The dedication of the Fort Hall, Shoshone-Bannock Jr/Sr High School will be held on December 6, 1996 at 2:00 pm., at Fort Hall, Idaho. However, day long activities will be featured, including a traditional feast, and pow-wow/dance. Contact Mr. Marvin Osborne, Chairperson, School Dedication Committee at (208) 238-3980 for more information.