



United States Department of the Interior

ASSISTANT SECRETARY - INDIAN AFFAIRS
Office of Regulatory Affairs and Collaborative Action
1001 Indian School Road NW, Suite 312

Date: July 29, 2010

To: Keith Moore, Director
Bureau of Indian Education

From: Michele F. Singer, Designated Federal Official
Office of Regulatory Affairs and Collaborative Action

Subject: "Complementary Education Facilities that do not exist but that are needed";
request for an assessment at each Bureau-funded school

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 directed the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a negotiated rulemaking committee (the Committee) in order to receive input from tribes with Bureau-funded schools. The tasks of the Committee include developing a catalog of the conditions of Bureau-funded school facilities, which must identify for each school "the complementary educational facilities that do not exist but that are needed." 25 U.S.C. § 2005(a)(5).

This Committee recently held its third meeting in Rapid City, South Dakota. The Committee has asked me, as the Designated Federal Official, to seek additional input from the administrators of each Bureau-funded school to provide an objective assessment to the Congressional request and identify the "educational facilities that do not exist but that are needed" at each school you administer.

It is important to note that there should be no expectations the facilities identified in response to this request will be built. The Committee's goal is to give Congress a clearer understanding of the collective insufficiency of the government's efforts to provide complementary educational facilities for Indian education. I certainly hope that, as a consequence of the Committee's work, Congress will understand the urgent need to appropriate funds for Indian school maintenance, repairs and replacements; but, again, none of us should expect a direct correlation between your identification of a needed educational facility and the provision of funds to build such facility. It is also important to note that the information included in the report submitted to Congress and to the Secretary of the Interior will be the direct result of the work from the Committee.

Please type up your response and submit via e-mail to Michele.Singer@bia.gov with a cc to Regina.Gilbert@bia.gov no later than September 3, 2010. Should you have any questions, please direct them to Regina Gilbert at (505) 563-3807. For more information, visit <http://www.bia.gov/WhoWeAre/AS-IA/ORM/Rulemaking/index.htm>

Cc: Deputy Director School Operations
Associate Deputy Director Administration
Associate Deputy Director – West
Associate Deputy Director – Navajo
Associate Deputy Director – East
Educational Line Officers
School Administrator
School Facility Officer