Indian Affairs - Office of Public Affairs

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WASHINGTON – Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs Larry Echo Hawk today announced that he will visit the Theodore Jamerson Elementary School (TJES) in Bismarck, N.D., to join students and teachers in viewing President Obama's address "My Education, My Future." The Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) funded school is located on the campus of the United Tribes Technical College (UTTC), and provides educational services for American Indian students in grades K-8.

On September 8, 2009 at 12:00 p.m. (EDT), President Obama will deliver the national address directly to students on the importance of education. The President will challenge students to work hard, set educational goals and take responsibility for their learning.

Afterwards, Assistant Secretary Echo Hawk will discuss the President's message with students, and share his own educational experiences along with his vision and initiative for BIE schools throughout Indian Country. The Assistant Secretary is responsible for the BIE, which oversees or directly operates 184 elementary and secondary day and boarding schools serving 48,000 students living on or near 64 federal Indian reservations in 23 states. Approximately two-thirds of the schools are tribally operated under BIE contracts or grants. The BIE school system is one of two federally operated school systems.

Who: Larry Echo Hawk, Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior

What: The Assistant Secretary will join students and teachers at the Theodore Jamerson Elementary School to view President Obama's national address "My Education, My Future." When: Tuesday, September 8, 2009, 12:00 p.m. (EDT)

Where: Theodore Jamerson Elementary School, United Tribes Technical College, 3315 University Drive, Bismarck, N.D., 58504

CREDENTIALS: This invitation is extended to working media representatives who are required to display sanctioned media credentials for admittance to this event. Please arrive thirty minutes before the event.