

Based in Washington, D.C. Rever Named Director of BIA Management Support Services

John "Jack" Rever, whose background includes facilities construction service with both the U.S. Navy and the Los Angeles Unified School District, is the first Director, BIA



Management Support Services, overseeing the Office of Facilities Management and Construction, as well as the Division of Safety and Risk Management and the Division of Environmental and Cultural Resources Management.

Rever, a registered Professional Engineer, moves from operating the largest U.S. public school construction program to directing the construction program for Indian Country's nationwide school district in support of the Office of Indian Education Programs.

"Jack's knowledge of school facilities is impressive. He has a wealth of experience and that will mean good things for Indian Country," said Boyd Robinson, Deputy Director of

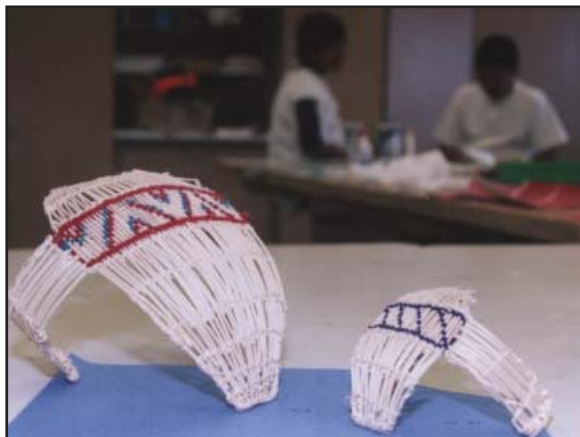
OFMC. Rever will serve as OFMC's Washington, D.C.-based executive, while Robinson will direct Field programs from OFMC's Albuquerque Central Office.

Rever spent the past two years overseeing a \$9.5 billion construction program for L.A. Schools where he was responsible for design and construction management of more than 200 new schools, totaling \$1.2 billion in contract value, while supervising 250 engineers, architects and technicians. Prior to that, he spent four years as an engineering consultant for expansion and enhancements to the Washington Metro Area Transit bus and rail systems.

From 1971 to 1999, Rever was a career Naval Officer of the Civil Engineer Corps where he gained broad experience in engineering, design, construction management and facilities management as commander and vice-commander of the Southern Division and Atlantic Division, respectively, of the Naval Facilities Engineering Command. He also has served in Okinawa, Japan.

see Rever interview, page 6

A Look at the First Wave of Replacement Schools: What are the impacts?



Paiute, Washoe and Shoshone Indian students weave willow reeds into hoods for baby baskets during cultural art classes at Pyramid Lake Junior-Senior High School in Nixon, NV. The 43,000 square-foot Replacement School was completed in 2000, and since then enrollment has remained steady at 120 students, while the number of graduates has increased each year. However, measurements of educational performance are a concern. The question remains, though, do new Indian schools like Pyramid Lake impact the community and the quality of education? See Page 4 for that discussion.

Briefs

NCAI's Tex Hall Comes to OFMC to Assist Twin Buttes School Project

Advocating the Three Affiliated Tribes' proposed replacement school, National Congress of American Indians President Tex Hall (left) visited with OFMC's Deputy Director Boyd Robinson in April.



U.S. EPA Recognizes Baca/Dlo'ay azhi with Environmental Award

The Environmental Protection Agency gave Baca/Dlo'ay azhi Community School its 2005 Environmental Achievement Award (Region 9) for the school's commitment to the environment.



FMIS Plans to Migrate to Interior's FBMS in 2008

The BIA's OFMC-designed Facilities Management Information System (FMIS), which continues to "set the standard" for Department of the Interior Maintenance Management Systems, faces a new challenge. Although it is fully functional as a client server-based system that services Facilities, Safety and Environmental functions for Education, Law Enforcement and general administration, it needs to realign with the new DOI Federal Business Management System (FBMS) and its enterprise real property and facilities applications. The target year for the BIA-wide FBMS implementation is FY2008.

"It is not a question of 'if' the Bureau of Indian Affairs will migrate, but 'when' and 'how,'" said OFMC Deputy Director Boyd Robinson. "Since the Bureau's scope with FMIS is broader and more comprehensive than FBMS, we hopefully will be able to run parallel systems until all our data has been migrated and functions unique to the BIA— such as stewardship of tribally owned assets and our Operations and Maintenance formula—are tested and approved."

This summer, OFMC will conduct an analysis to compare the "gap" in functions FMIS already offers to the BIA compared to those of an FBMS Maintenance Management System (MMS).

"This is the time to define what we need and communicate those requirements to the Department of the Interior's FBMS development team," said Robinson, adding that the Bureau of Land Management is scheduled for an FY2006 implementation and the National Parks Service and the U.S. Geologic Survey are scheduled for an FY2007 implementation.

The BIA transition effort will require a reformat of the FMIS data model and a very selective approach to new enhancements to the existing system. Efforts are still underway to provide direct access by schools to a maintenance management system.

Santa Fe Indian School Receives National School Board Recognition

Bill Davis, Vice President of the Buildings Division of Arctic Slope Consulting Group (ASCG), shows Director Jack Rever (right) the notice from the National School Board Association Education Design Showcase designating Santa Fe Indian School as 2005 "Project of the Year." The school was designed by ASCG.



Dramatic Fire Rescue at Crow Creek High School Dormitory

Although fire alarms functioned properly, four girls had to be rescued by school employees from the top floor of a burning dormitory in April at Crow Creek High School in Stephan, South Dakota. Fortunately, most of the other students

were away on school trips. The building had hot spots that flared up again, though no one was in the structure at that time. Currently, OFMC is evaluating whether the dormitory should be renovated or demolished.

Chemawa Indian School Catches Greenhouse Deterioration in Time

A major student pathway is in close proximity to the greenhouse at Chemawa Indian School in Salem, Oregon. Student safety necessitated an emergency repair last year to replace the rotting wood frame with steel stud framing. The original exterior siding was reused.



OFMC Project Manager Respects Self-Determination

OFMC Project Manager Phil Sarracino said building new schools in Indian Country is a team effort. While valuable input comes from each professional involved, it is important to develop partnerships with local community leaders to get their unique input, as well, he said.

"I have the benefit of having been part of several multi-million dollar school construction projects, while the tribal officials or the school board members I work with are probably facing their first big project," said Sarracino. "Since I

strongly support Indian self-determination, I try to nudge tribes and school boards in the right direction rather than telling them what to do."

"I know things from experience, and I want to make sure that the tribes are successful in building state-of-the-art facilities. And I must make sure the Government's money is spent wisely," said Sarracino, a member of Laguna Pueblo, who has been with OFMC for 13 years.

"Tribes and school boards hire their own project managers for each project, creating employment opportunities and fulfilling self-determination. However, sometimes there are shortfalls in experience and this is where teamwork begins. In every project I have been a part of, there has always been an exchange of information and expertise which have only helped to expedite the project in a positive way."



Phil Sarracino celebrates last year's opening of First Mesa Elementary School on the Hopi Reservation in Arizona.

After Five Years, Pyramid Lake Replacement School Brings Renewed Spirit to the Tribal Community but Creates Educational Challenges

The building is holding up well. However, the restricted student flow during food service and the kitchen equipment not reaching required temperatures, remain problems. A chronic problem remains the feeble door closers which are wearing out rapidly, even with their anticipated rate of use in a school designed for 240 students.

Tribal leaders and parents consider the five-year old Pyramid Lake Junior-Senior High School in Nixon, NV, a showplace for educating youth and a focal point for community pride.

"There's been a reversal of attitudes," said parent Paula Paul. "Now many kids would rather be at school than at home." She said she sees successful graduates active in the community. "There is now a (traditional) dance group at the school."

Former Chairwoman of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council Bonnie A. Akaka-Smith said despite some strained relations between tribal government and

school officials, the new building has inspired a good spirit of cooperation throughout her community. Principal Randy Melendez, who also serves as one of the coaches, said, "We have over 500 local people come to our home basketball games."

However, school officials now recognize that the attractive new building created an unexpected dynamic—surrounding school districts are sending their at-risk Indian students back to Pyramid Lake. This has helped those students but has negatively impacted the statistics used for performance measures of the quality of education at Pyramid Lake. "Our Iowa Tests scores show our ninth graders are reading and writing better than our seniors, because of the influx of high school students who weren't thriving at other schools and who come to us needing remedial help," said Assistant Principal Peggy Lorge.

Lunch-Time Crowding Occurs Daily



Senior Jordan Blossom struggles to squeeze through the crowd lined up at two serving windows.



(1) Principal Randy Melendez is a Pyramid Lake tribal member. (2) With so much construction occurring in the nearby Reno/Sparks area, Chris Clayton's carpentry classes have increased in popularity. (3) The school has increased the community spirit throughout the Pyramid Lake reservation. (4) Here Economics Instructor Norene Van Valkenburg gives individual instruction to a high school student.

Other First-Wave Replacement Schools Going Strong



Chief Leschi School

Has Indian Education improved at three other schools—Chief Leschi School (1996) and Wa He Lut Indian School (1997) in Washington and Shoshone Bannock School District 512 (1996) in Idaho—which were among the 1990's wave of Replacement School projects due to increased BIA Education Construction budgets?

Chief Leschi educators report their new building prompted a return to an almost all-Indian student body, with daily attendance at a very high rate. Test scores show continuing improvement, as do graduation statistics, they said.

At Wa He Lut, which was built to replace a school destroyed by a flood, attendance and test scores are on the rise. More and more tribal members

are discovering that the community can utilize the facility. In return, they are advocating culturally relevant education, and they are choosing to send their children to the school, said Vice Principal Brenda Lovin.

Shoshone Bannock School District 512 Principal Peter Lipovac said community activities at the school have increased several fold with the new building.

"We have more and more community events like dinners and funerals at the school, and that means community interaction with students, teachers and administrators. The result is a growing support for cultural education. Now we have a graduation requirement of 10 credits in cultural studies; we have a tribal dance group and we have active student support for other activities," said Lipovac. "The discipline of the students is much improved, in part, because of the greater visibility provided by the new building and the separation of the junior from the senior high school."



Wa He Lut Indian School

Interview

Rever: Miracles Happen

John "Jack" Rever knows that miracles do happen.

"I've learned over the years that there is never enough money to run a program as it should properly be done, so I am always pleased to see facility managers, engineers and architects deliver a project in a timely and cost-effective fashion. What they do really is a miracle," said Rever, the newly appointed Director of BIA Management Support Services, which oversees the Office of Facility Management and Construction.

Rever joins the Bureau at a time of declining Education construction budgets, while Operations funding has not kept up with the overall growth in the number of Bureau facilities. "It will take a true miracle to keep things afloat until we can get some relief from funding shortfalls, but I have no question that we have the talent throughout the BIA to do so, even after being with the Bureau for just a short time," he said.

"Our goal should be to put students in the classroom, and we must adhere to our self-imposed dates rather than just let the construction process proceed at its normal course. The way we meet these dates has more to do with good, proactive project management during the planning and design stages than it does with the actual construction," Rever said.

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June FIXIT Training Joined by Facility Manager Confab

The five-day FIXIT Mini-Institute will be held in Albuquerque, NM, June 6-10, with 22 training sessions scheduled. In conjunction with the training, OFMC will hold its annual BIA Facility Managers meeting that same week. The training sessions at the Hilton Albuquerque are free, but participants are responsible for travel, per diem and lodging. For more information, contact OFMC Training Coordinator Sandy Lujan, Turtle Mountain Chippewa, at (505) 346-6511.

Energy Savings Program to be Aided by FMIS Screen Redesign

Once a school or other facility knows its energy consumption rate, especially in comparison to other like buildings, formal efforts to reduce consumption can be initiated and the results more easily monitored. To assist this Department-wide effort, OFMC is adding a feature to an FMIS screen which will allow tracking of energy usage and associated costs. Facility Managers will now be able to encode a facility's annual energy units as part of their normal FMIS location data recordkeeping. Then they can generate reports that show the facility's energy use trends. Also, FMIS will be able to produce the Department's required Annual Report on Energy Management for the BIA. Mechanical Engineer John Brown is the OFMC Energy Coordinator.

Program Support	
	Total Cost
Communications	\$3,400.00
GSA Vehicle Rental	\$17,370.00
Protection Services	\$0.00
Pest Control	\$1,678.00
Refuse Collect/Disposal	\$23,631.00
BIA Owned Vehicles (Non GSA)	
	Total Cost
Gasoline	\$2.00
Diesel	\$3.00
LPG Propane	\$1.50
Other	\$1.00
Program Support Total:	\$45,882.00

Utilities		
	Total Cost	Total Units
Electricity	\$400.00	1200
Fuel Oil	\$2,000.00	1,000
Propane	\$43,341.56	20,000
Natural Gas	\$90.00	10
Water/Gal	\$1,000.00	500
Sewer	\$2,000.00	1,000
Waste	\$1,005.00	30,000
Sales	\$3,243.66	18,000
Energy Savings Performance Contract	\$1,000.00	
Utilities Total:	\$54,880.22	

Actual Location Total: \$100,723.22



BIA Director of Management Support Services Jack Rever watches Baca/Dlo' ay azhi Community School's Navajo Culture and Language Instructor Lucia Loreto demonstrate the use of a loom during his April tour of BIA school sites.

In Memoriam



Two long-time Indian Country Education facility managers died recently, following years of dedicated service to Indian children.

Oklahoma's Riverside Indian School Facility Manager Barry Smith died April 19 while on travel to Albuquerque.



Jerry Chisolm, facility manager of Mississippi Choctaw Schools, died March 20 shortly after heart surgery.

Cherokee Archaeological Site



Above: The Cherokee School site.

Right: This polished stone disc with a three-inch diameter was used to play a popular game among Southeastern Indians, which is documented elsewhere both in early written accounts from 1700's and in carvings on shell goglets.



Below: An early Cherokee house included an intact burned clay hearth.



Large-scale excavations are taking place on about 40 acres of bottomland and hillsides along the Ravenford River north of Cherokee, North Carolina, before construction can begin on the new Cherokee K-12 complex. The excavations have found evidence of at least seven Cherokee communities dating between A.D. 1350 and 1700, including the remains of at least 25 houses and numerous filled-in pits containing pottery and stone artifacts. The site contains some of the best-preserved Cherokee materials ever excavated in North Carolina and is providing new information on changes in Cherokee architecture, tool manufacture and use, subsistence, and other aspects of life over a key 350-year period in Cherokee history. The archaeological work is being conducted by TRC Garrow Associates on behalf of the school and is overseen by the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians' Tribal Historic Preservation Office and the National Park Service.

Interview

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"During this crucial period, project managers have to ensure that many actions run concurrently rather than sequentially."

"In the planning phase, we have to include everyone—school boards, teachers, parents, students, administrators, tribal officials, as well as the construction professionals. The goal is to get everyone on the same page; otherwise, inordinate delays will result," he said. "Getting the community involved is important because across Indian Country, many of the school sites are remote and these schools serve as the center of the tribal community, as well."

"Our standards don't permit us to consider all the potential uses when we design our schools, but it is realistic to expect that classrooms and gyms are going to be used by the community," he said.

While Education construction is the budget giant, Rever said he will not lose sight of the other Divisions he supervises: the Division of Safety and Risk Management and the Division of Environmental and Cultural Resources Management. Also, he said he will keep a focus on Detention Center remediation and construction and the need for suitable administrative space for the Bureau's Field operations.

Havasupai Airlift Assists BIA Housing Program in Bottom of Grand Canyon

The Western Region's Truxton Cañon Agency is completing the last fourplex for housing Law Enforcement, Education and other Bureau personnel whose jobs take them to the bottom of the Grand Canyon, which is home to the Havasupai Tribe. The remote location necessitates the use of helicopters and pack animals to bring in construction materials.

The OFMC Quarters Program consists of 3,600 units nationwide, is operating on a \$3.038 million budget in FY2005 and is managed by Gerald Curley, a member of the Navajo Nation.

An employee housing fourplex is being constructed at the bottom of the Grand Canyon in front of a fourplex built in 2002.



MISSION

It is the mission of the Office of Facilities Management and Construction to ensure the efficient and effective stewardship of resources for new construction, renovation, operation and maintenance of Bureau-funded facilities.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

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