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REPLACEMENT SCHOOL PUBLIC MEETING
SOUTHWEST TRAINING AREA
2ND FLOOR, ROOM 271
1011 INDIAN SCHOOL ROAD, NW, SUITE 335
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87104

LUKACHUKAI BOARDING SCHOOL
FEBRUARY 2, 2016
1:00 P.M.

LUKACHUKAI TEAM:
SAMUEL YAZZI
CHARLOTTE BEGAY
RAMONA ROGERS
JIMMIE C. BEGAY
ZANE JAMES

1 MR. ESKEETS: Good afternoon. We are into the
2 second day of this public meeting, so welcome, Lukachukai
3 folks. And I think I still see some people from the other
4 presentation still are here, so that's good. Welcome
5 again. We are getting into the third presentation of the
6 day, and I have maybe one or two or three or four ground
7 rules.

8 If you have cell phones, please put them on
9 vibration. The only media that we're allowed in this room
10 is the transcriber taking notes, so please don't take
11 recordings or don't take photographs or from your cell
12 phones and things like that.

13 So the presentations are, as you know, scheduled
14 for 30 minutes with a follow-up of 20 minutes of question
15 and answers. There will be more of an emphasis on the
16 three questions that you should have paid particular
17 attention to, but be aware there will be more emphasis on
18 that.

19 Lastly, if the audience has any questions, I have
20 a little black box on each table that you can write down
21 your question. The reason I'm saying that is the only
22 dialogue is between the National Review Committee members
23 and the presenters here. So if you have questions, as far
24 as the audience goes, please write them down, give them to
25 me, and I will give them to the committee members for their

1 review and consideration.

2 I also like to recognize senior advisor to AS-IA,
3 Cheryl, she is here in the audience. And then I have -- I
4 would also like to acknowledge Mr. LaRoche, our deputy --
5 not our deputy, but the director of our office, and Wallace
6 Keays, the deputy director. So I get them confused.

7 So thank you, and Barbara here will take the rest
8 of the time and explain more.

9 MS. BORGESON: Thank you, Emerson. So our next
10 group to present this afternoon is Lukachukai. We will
11 have a 30-minute presentation followed by a 20-minute
12 question and answer session.

13 And our transcriptionist who is taking notes for
14 the meeting has asked when we have question and answer, if
15 the committee members, as well as the school team, use the
16 microphone so that she can be sure and get the names and as
17 well as the discussion recorded. So if we can follow that
18 guidance, we will have a good presentation here.

19 So I will turn it over to Lukachukai at this
20 time.

21 MR. JAMES: Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen.
22 (Presenting in native language.) My name is Zane James. I
23 am the Lukachukai school board member, if you don't mind, I
24 would like our presenting board to introduce themselves to
25 you as well.

1 MR. YAZZI: Good afternoon. My name is Samuel
2 Yazzi. I'm school board president. My clan is []. Thank
3 you.

4 MS. ROGERS: Good morning, my name is Ramona
5 Rogers. I'm the human resource manager. My clan is []
6 Clan, born for Irish. Thank you.

7 MS. BEGAY: Good afternoon, my name is Charlotte
8 Begay. I'm the school principal of Lukachukai Community
9 School. (Presenting in native language.)

10 MR. BEGAY: Good morning, my name is Jimmie C.
11 Begay. (Presenting in native language.) I'm facility
12 manager.

13 MR. JAMES: Thank you National Review Committee.
14 We are extremely honored and happy to be here to present
15 before you today. I would like to say this new school
16 construction project is a community-wide event. It's
17 something that the whole community has embraced, not just
18 within the Lukachukai community, but our neighboring
19 communities of Sailing Wheat Fields, also Round Rock, Rock
20 Point and those particular areas. And that is evident by
21 our support here today. We have some school administrators
22 and also community members in the audience. If you don't
23 mind standing, the individuals that came to support us as
24 well.

25 We also have our Navajo Nation delegate,

1 Mr. Nelson Begay, in the back. We do have support from the
2 office of the vice president, Mr. Leonard Chee, staff
3 assistant to the vice-president, the Honorable Jonathan
4 Nez.

5 So this is a community-wide event, it's something
6 that we are extremely excited about and throughout the
7 presentation today, we really want to focus on the
8 condition of the facility at Lukachukai Community School.
9 It's something we want to really highlight in our
10 presentation.

11 With that said, I'm going to turn the microphone
12 over to our facility manager. Mr. Jimmie C. Begay.

13 MR. BEGAY: Hello. I wanted to express current
14 concerns on the water sewer system. It was built in the
15 1930s. We still have some of the systems in place. As you
16 know, it gives us a lot of problems in the pipes, water,
17 also expensive to maintain. We have spent a lot of money
18 over the years to maintain the system. We also produce low
19 quality water, rusty water is. The coloration of water, at
20 times it gets discolored and then gets cleared again. We
21 have frequent leaks, water breaks, and freezing also during
22 the winter. The summertime, like last summer we had a
23 water break. It started working in October, and then we
24 had three water breaks already.

25 And now I will give the microphone to Ms. Begay,

1 our principal.

2 MS. BEGAY: Thank you, Mr. Begay. Due to summer
3 water breakage and just the annual problems that we have
4 been having with our water pipes at Lukachukai Community
5 School, one of the major events that has occurred in the
6 year 2015 was the cancellation of our summer school
7 program. We had no other resource to continue with our
8 academic program due to the major water break under the
9 kitchen and into our administration building, therefore, it
10 was just a hindrance on our academic. We were not able to
11 provide the free meal programs that are -- where our kids
12 come in to eat and also it did create a rippling effect out
13 into our quarters and our community as well. Quarters we
14 had to declare a state of emergency where we had to call on
15 the Navajo Nation for assistance. We had our Navajo tribal
16 utility authority bring in a load of water to maintain our
17 quarters for cooking, sanitary items and the day-to-day
18 functions of our quarters. On the school campus we have --
19 we had to put in porta-johns. We tried to continue with
20 our daily function, but the water break was just a really
21 major big problem for our school, and that's one of the
22 bigger things and our concern at this point. Thank you.

23 MR. BEGAY: Here we have pictures of -- this is
24 below the classroom, the boiler system where the rusted
25 pipes running down there into the classrooms, and here

1 where you see a -- the asbestos on the -- in the boiler
2 areas. These are prevalent throughout the school system
3 under where all the boilers are situated, so a lot of
4 asbestos has not been abated.

5 Here we have the, in the dormitory, the
6 connection to the washer and dryer. We have the problems
7 with the discoloration also that accumulates on the pipes.
8 These have been replaced three years ago, and it's
9 accumulating again. Here is one in the kitchen, rusted
10 also. This has been replaced three years ago and still
11 there is prevalent rusting. Again we replaced them.

12 The heating and air conditioning, we have a
13 subzero temperatures during the winters that is cold and
14 winters we have temperatures 90 plus above. And the
15 heating system is from the 1950s. These are the boiler
16 type, these are not available locally but our shipment from
17 Langdon, Utah, or from Langdon, Utah or Colorado. The
18 parts of the boiler are not readily available, but call
19 around to different places, even to Chicago to get to these
20 parts.

21 Also a lot of these parts are no longer
22 manufactured, I will give the microphone over to Mr. James.

23 MR. JAMES: In addition to the air conditioning
24 units at our current school at Lukachukai Community School,
25 we basically have no air condition units. Our air

1 conditioning units are single pane windows where we have to
2 pry them open in the summertimes, and in the wintertimes it
3 allows cold, cold air to come into our facility. That is
4 one of the biggest things we deal with at Lukachukai
5 Community School.

6 The other thing we deal with is maintaining
7 adequate room temperature for our students and teachers.
8 It's something we struggle with on a day-to-day basis every
9 day. In the wintertimes our boilers are very -- the heat
10 is maintained at one elevated temperature and summertimes
11 we have no air conditioning unit within the facility.

12 MR. BEGAY: This is a boiler from the 1950s. As
13 you can see, also there is a pad that is -- this is not
14 working and not in service for some time.

15 MR. JAMES: As I mentioned earlier, the air
16 conditioning units at Lukachukai are these little portable
17 air conditioning units that we have to install for our
18 classrooms. Again, these are not commercial air
19 conditioning units. We all know that the facility was
20 again built in the 1930s, so when we installed air
21 conditioning units as such, we have to install plywood in
22 certain areas, and these are done one time a year. So in
23 the wintertimes you have a lot of excessive air coming into
24 the facility as well.

25 As far as the shelter, the roofs, walls and

1 floors do not meet the basic standards that an individual
2 should be educated in or that teachers should be teaching
3 in. The building roofs were never adequately constructed,
4 therefore they are continuously failing. Additionally, we
5 have frequent leaks within our school system. It's very
6 common to see it in the summertimes when the -- when the
7 rains come you see portable pots and cans throughout the
8 facility to -- to really capture some of the leaks.

9 We have cracked walls and floorings throughout
10 the building. We also have decade old window system. Like
11 I said, the single pane window is something we constantly
12 struggle with because the rust has welded the majority of
13 the window panes to the existing building. It's hard to
14 keep wind out and dust out in certain areas of the
15 building.

16 MR. BEGAY: Here is a picture the roof. This is
17 a membrane roofing system. Again it's not adequate to hold
18 water at times. These have been fixed so many times we
19 have a lot of leaking in the dormitory and classrooms. So
20 this is a picture of cracked walls from the outside where a
21 lot of sediment outside the classrooms.

22 These are some of the cracks. We have a 1930s
23 building still used as classrooms. We have cracking up
24 here above the windows. Here we see the floor. It has
25 asbestos containing material. This is also prevalent

1 throughout the classrooms, throughout the building, and
2 other buildings also. So we need -- these need to be
3 replaced.

4 MR. JAMES: This here is a very common sight
5 within our classrooms. This is facing basically the whole
6 wall of a classroom is a window setting. So we constantly
7 struggle with adequate lighting within our facility and in
8 the spring months it's very common to see teachers putting
9 up papers to really distract some of the light that's
10 coming in.

11 And of course we can't predict the weather. If
12 the sun is not shining for that particular day. We need
13 adequate lighting. The teachers have to go and take down
14 those manmade shades as well. Additionally we had to
15 install some curtains that subject the building to
16 inadequate fire codes. So these are things we deal with on
17 a day-to-day basis.

18 We would like to transition into a video for you
19 to see first-hand and actually see what we encounter at
20 Lukachukai Community Schools. Thank you.

21 (Video played.)

22 MS. ROGERS: Isn't that something. We are shovel
23 ready -- to be that small again so that we can experience
24 that, too.

25 Some of the unmet need is the transportation as

1 stated in the presentation. We do not have paved loading
2 and unloading for students. We have parents that are
3 dropping kids off in the staff parking lot, which is a
4 safety concern. Our IT, our facilities are too old for
5 modern IT infrastructure. Overcrowding classrooms have to
6 be adjusted. Just this year we had two 2nd grade
7 classrooms, we had to add a third. We had to take that
8 chance to take that risk to get a third class because there
9 was behavior that was erupting, there was parents
10 complaining.

11 And we just told the principal, "We have to do
12 it." And it was a chance that we had to take and we were
13 lucky and fortunate to find that highly qualified teacher
14 mid year, so we were very fortunate with that. But those
15 are the things we are experiencing.

16 There is no adequate facilities for exceptional
17 student services. Every week these speech therapists,
18 occupational therapists, they have to come on location and
19 we have to find who is using that little classroom, that's
20 where they need to go serve the students.

21 So these are the things we have to deal with day
22 to day, and thank you very much.

23 MR. JAMES: In addition to some of the inadequate
24 classroom facilities we have, we also have inadequate
25 classroom facility. We have no -- absolutely no

1 recreational facility on campus, and we have a residential
2 program that was cut in half when the original dormitory
3 was condemned in the late 1980s, and you saw that in the
4 video earlier as well.

5 This here is a picture of the Lukachukai school
6 gymnasium, this gymnasium serves multi purposes at the
7 Lukachukai Community School. We have a very community
8 engaged school so our 8th grade graduations basically
9 cannot accommodate the amount of people that come into this
10 facility so we had to move the 8th grade graduations out
11 into the open.

12 This here is a picture of Lukachukai Community
13 School cafeteria. Our cafeteria, the size cannot
14 accommodate the size of the kindergarten through 8,
15 therefore we have to run three different lunch programs to
16 accommodate all of the students, and it should be noted
17 that the cafeteria currently has never -- has never had an
18 adequate sanitation facility for our students. There are
19 no boys and girls restrooms, and in the video you saw the
20 students coming into the cafeteria, so if a child needs to
21 go to the restroom, that individual has to leave the
22 cafeteria and go into another building, expose them to
23 weather conditions as such today -- we all know how cold it
24 is today.

25 This classroom here, picture, is very typical at

1 Lukachukai Community Schools. If you look at the portable
2 projector there, it's something that teachers have to be as
3 innovative as they can to accommodate the needs of the
4 classrooms.

5 If you saw Ms. Pahe in the video, there is one
6 area where she had to turn sideways to move to maneuver
7 throughout a classroom. It's very common we see clutter
8 like this in a classroom as well.

9 The IT server rooms, this is very common here.
10 This room has been flooded many times, so you have actual
11 conduit coming out a little further than the ground just to
12 accommodate the excessive water that funnels into the IT
13 server rooms. Additionally you have exposed wiring that's
14 very common.

15 This here is the infamous black hole on
16 Lukachukai Community School. This building has been
17 labeled a black hole, and it sits in the center, in the
18 absolute center of our school -- school compound. This,
19 imagine, this is the first thing the students see when they
20 come into the school system on a daily basis and it's the
21 last thing they see when they leave Lukachukai Community
22 Schools.

23 And if you stand in the middle of our school
24 compound, if you look directly north, imagine sitting in a
25 classroom and you look out the window and first thing you

1 see is a cemetery. We are bordered to the north by a
2 cemetery and to the south we are bordered by a sewer
3 lagoon. So inadequate HVAC in our school compound dealing
4 with the summer from the sewer, that is something that our
5 students deal with on a day-to-day basis.

6 Additionally, school replacement has been sought
7 for over 15 years, beyond the 15 years. In 2014 the
8 deferred maintenance backlog about \$40 million. We have
9 secured 44 acres in the community for a new school site.
10 The site is -- we have access to utility infrastructure,
11 and also again by a show of our support here today, we have
12 a very strong community support for our new school
13 construction.

14 In conclusion, for decades Lukachukai Community
15 School students and teachers have had to overcome the
16 physical conditions at the school to try and teach and
17 learn, the buildings and lands should help learning happen
18 at Lukachukai Community Schools. The buildings and land
19 prevent students and teachers from doing the work they want
20 to do. School replacement at Lukachukai long ago stopped
21 being a question of convenience for our students and staff;
22 school replacement is a matter of human rights.

23 And I would like you to leave you with a little
24 quote from November 10, 2014, published article of the Sage
25 Open.

1 It says: "The condition of a school building is
2 more correlated to student performance than the combined
3 influences of family background, socioeconomic status,
4 school attendance and behavior."

5 So a school compound has more bearing and is
6 correlated to student performance than family background,
7 socioeconomic status and school attendance and behavior --
8 2001. Thank you.

9 MS. BORGESON: All right. Perfect timing there.
10 It's time now for our question and answer session. And the
11 first question is, can you meet post award requirements for
12 planning within the 18-month time frame? These
13 requirements include land availability, utilities, geotech
14 surveillance, NEPA requirements, et cetera.

15 You have addressed it in your presentation, but
16 would you like to add to that?

17 MR. JAMES: Yes, I would like to, and thank you
18 for the question. And to answer your question as directly
19 and frankly as we can, yes, we are ready to meet the
20 requirements.

21 As evidenced here, we do have a letter from the
22 division of natural resources department manager, Mr. Mike
23 Corona, basically allowing and giving site control, land
24 withdrawal to the Lukachukai Community Schools for the
25 44.27 acres for the site, so we do have adequate land

1 properly withdrawn. And you saw the video where the land
2 is away from the proposed site or away from the current
3 school, school structures.

4 Additionally we have two letters from the utility
5 providers, the Navajo Nation, the Navajo Tribal Utility
6 Authority, one, basically committing that we do have
7 adequate water supply in the area, and that they are
8 committed to providing the water for that particular area
9 of our new school construction site.

10 And we all know in any construction process, in
11 any vertical construction process that all -- that the
12 issue always is adequate infrastructure. So we also have a
13 letter indicating that we do have a three-way power system
14 coming into the area so we can immediately tap off of that.
15 So the infrastructure from the water and utility standpoint
16 is readily available at our new 4.27 acre site.

17 Also the land has been surveyed and withdrawn as
18 I stated here earlier. We have a copy of this as well, and
19 we do have a conceptual of what the facility might look
20 like. I, I always pride the fact that our school
21 administrators, our school board has taken this proactive
22 approach to getting prepared for new school construction.

23 We have had over 15 years to prepare. A lot of
24 work has been put into this particular facility, so we are
25 extremely excited. We feel like we are ready for the new

1 school construction. And in reference to the land
2 withdrawal, land withdrawal cannot happen from a Navajo
3 Nation designation if your archeological clearances are not
4 complete, if your environment assessments are not complete,
5 so that answers your NEPA question. Thank you.

6 Additionally, also we did go out and solicit a
7 couple of geotechnical firms, so we are ready to go in and
8 within the 44.27 acres to start a geotechnical analysis.
9 So thank you.

10 MS. BORGESON: Do we have any follow-up questions
11 from the committee on question one?

12 (No response.)

13 MS. BORGESON: No? I just want to add, too, that
14 this documentation has been provided to the committee, and
15 so you will have copies for consideration.

16 MR. KEEL: I do have -- Dale Keel. You mentioned
17 that you have a dorm that was closed. Do you have a dorm
18 program now, and do you plan to have a dorm program with
19 your new school?

20 MR. JAMES: So you are basically giving us a new
21 school, right? You are telling us we will have a new
22 school? Thank you. Our job is done. We are going to go
23 ahead and go home -- but no --

24 MR. KEEL: We want to transcribe that there.

25 MR. JAMES: It's all transcribed there. We did

1 have a current dorm and we had a dorm that was condemned in
2 the 1980s, and I will turn the floor over to Ms. Ramona
3 Rogers to elaborate more on that.

4 MS. ROGERS: Our dorm was closed 2008 to 2010 due
5 to mold, so we had to have all of our students go to day
6 school, day students, and our dorm students became teacher
7 aides for that contract year. The dorm was closed for two
8 years, EPA and the bureau came in and did all the
9 environmental studies and air quality and so forth, and we
10 got the green light to go back in.

11 So the dorm is in operation. We have
12 approximately 60 students that we are serving. Currently
13 the dorm that is condemned is from previous years, that was
14 a dorm. There was another one on the other side that we
15 converted to classrooms which were being used as
16 classrooms, junior high level classrooms.

17 There is another dorm that is currently in
18 operation. It's small dorms where we house both the boys
19 and girls. Thank you.

20 MR. JAMES: Additionally, to further elaborate on
21 that, with this new school construction we have proposed
22 dorm area as well.

23 MS. BORGESON: All right. On Question 2, how
24 does your school support the mission of BIE to manifest
25 consideration of the whole person taking into account the

1 spiritual, mental, physical and cultural aspects of the
2 individual.

3 MR. JAMES: For that question I'm going to turn
4 the floor over to our principal Ms. Charlotte Begay.

5 MS. BEGAY: Thank you, Mr. James. I would like
6 to elaborate and give you an overview of our instructional
7 program at Lukachukai Community School.

8 We are 99 percent enrollment of Dine students
9 kindergarten through 8th grade. We -- the school, we
10 integrate our Dine cultural language, we try to imbed our
11 instruction and preservation preserving our language and
12 culture.

13 And we do have supporting programs like the
14 gifted and talented. We also have an RCI implementation.
15 We have after-school tutoring. We do have counseling in
16 the academic and also on the residential. We do have a lot
17 of activities, extracurricular activities that are geared
18 towards tradition, our traditional culture. We have
19 students that are participating in Navajo culture group.
20 They go out to the communities, they do their dances, they
21 do skits, they do a lot of things.

22 One of the major setbacks is that we do not have
23 the specific housing or the placement for these students to
24 display their projects, you know, share with the parents in
25 the community what they are doing. Due to space, we don't

1 have enough space, we are -- on a lot of things we need to
2 provide our students with all of these accommodations, yet
3 the hindrance is that our building is obsolete. They are
4 very old, so we have to find different areas as Mrs. Rogers
5 just stated to accommodate all of these activities, and
6 imagine the things that our students can be doing and are
7 capable of. So I would like to leave you with that. Thank
8 you.

9 MR. JAMES: In addition to the question taking
10 into account the spiritual, mental, physical, and cultural
11 aspect of the whole individual, we showed you a picture of
12 the black hole, the infamous black hole in the center of
13 campus. Imagine going to work every day and seeing a
14 boarded up facility within your structure. What does that
15 do to you from a psychological standpoint as an employee?

16 Now, take that and imagine your child went to
17 that school setting every day, every day the first thing
18 they see. And the second thing they see, additionally, our
19 border to the exact north is the cemetery. A cemetery. We
20 look -- our students look at a cemetery every day while
21 shuffling through the school.

22 From a cultural standpoint, Native Americans,
23 specifically we Dine, those are some areas that we are not
24 supposed to be exposed to on a day-to-day basis. Our
25 children are there every day. We turn to the south and we

1 have a sewer lagoon. We have no adequate ventilation of
2 the facility. In the summertimes when we have to open the
3 doors, that odor comes into the building and our -- the
4 kids are exposed to that every single day.

5 Additionally, within the center of the school we
6 have -- there have been known pottery shards throughout the
7 school compound. In Navajo culture and Navajo tradition,
8 building on Anasazi sites is a taboo. It's something that
9 requires medicine men to come in and heal an individual
10 from a cultural standpoint, so we are exposed to that on a
11 day-to-day basis.

12 We can do what we can to support the mission of
13 BIE, but under the circumstances we can't fully meet that
14 due to the location of our school and due to the condition
15 of our school system. Thank you.

16 MS. BORGESON: We have some follow-up.

17 MR. LAPLANTE: Mike LaPlante. I would just like
18 to get an idea of where, on that lower map there, of where
19 your existing school is compared to your new proposed site.

20 MR. JAMES: Okay. So -- okay. So the Navajo
21 Route 12 basically runs -- this is Navajo Route 12, and
22 this is in 13 intersection, the gas or the grocery store,
23 the store that you saw is here. The new proposed land
24 withdrawal site is here. This is the 44 acres. The
25 current school system is up on the hill in this particular

1 area. So it's well away from the community cemetery, it's
2 well away from the sewer lagoon and well away from all the
3 historic Anasazi pottery shards that we have known to see
4 on campus.

5 (Question asked inaudible.)

6 MR. JAMES: Approximately two miles from the
7 current school.

8 MS. BORGESON: Any other comments from the
9 committee on Question 2? All right, Question 3. How does
10 the current condition affect your ability to run a
11 day-to-day education program? Items you might address
12 include power outages, lack of internet access, adequate
13 water or adequate utility systems.

14 MR. JAMES: I will give the floor to Mr. Begay to
15 speak to that.

16 MR. BEGAY: Thank you for this question. Imagine
17 you have a school where everything works, you can go inside
18 a classroom and control your heating system. You can go
19 inside the classroom or auditorium, and you can control the
20 lighting system, just a turn. Also imagine that you have a
21 utility system that's in place that's working. The boiler
22 systems are up to date, so you don't have many problems in
23 your school system. All you do is check all the readings
24 in the morning, at the border site an classrooms. We don't
25 have that, the students don't have that. Imagine you don't

1 have power outages, you have adequate power outlets in a
2 classroom or in a building where you can use a lot of
3 electronics so you don't have power outages. We don't have
4 that.

5 And imagine in a room like this where you have
6 adequate ventilation, you have adequate air conditioning,
7 you can control inside, also, the students don't have that.
8 So we constantly have these problems. So also a set -- we
9 have to take care of those, and those are problems despite
10 all of these. I think we are -- the students are learning,
11 and I will give the floor over to our principal.

12 MS. BEGAY: Thank you again, Mr. Begay. I just
13 wanted to share with you on the portion of lack of
14 internet -- lack of internet access, we at Lukachukai
15 Community School have been doing what we can to accommodate
16 the technology integrated portion on the academic side.

17 Currently we have an RTI program which is all
18 internet based. We do have our NWEA, which is an online
19 assessment that is required of Department of Education.
20 Speaking to those, we do what we can and we start planning
21 when our assessments are coming, we start planning.

22 We are active to make sure that our internet at
23 the time of the testing window are working. We have to
24 come in on weekends. Our technician comes in to update one
25 computer at a time. It's not where you just go and do a

1 network check and do upgrades and whatnot. It's one day at
2 a time, and really, in our RTI, our access to the internet
3 is very limited. Our students are either waiting a couple
4 of minutes to, you know, to get connected to our internet,
5 otherwise it doesn't work, and that's a whole lesson lost
6 right there. So these are the issues that we are dealing
7 with at Lukachukai Community School.

8 One of the major points that I wanted to share
9 with the review committee is that we have advanced ed
10 accreditation that comes in to assess our school. We were
11 cited for lack of internet access. In fact, the review
12 team couldn't do any of their work on campus. They
13 couldn't log in to their portal. They couldn't update
14 upload any information on their portal to complete their
15 job there on campus, but because we just didn't have the
16 internet accessibility.

17 So what they did is they took their work and went
18 to the nearest hotel and completed their assessment and
19 that's a very good example of our internet capabilities,
20 their lack of internet capabilities at our school. And
21 thank you so much.

22 MS. BORGESON: Did you want to add something?

23 MS. ROGERS: I would like to add something. It
24 took us three years advertising for a librarian. We
25 finally got a librarian in June. We brought her so she

1 could get ready in the library. Come school starts, she
2 said she couldn't do it. She submitted her resignation and
3 left her location, so we are back down to having a library
4 aide with the location at the time.

5 She could not upload all of these links to
6 outside, and she couldn't upload the students' names into
7 whatever software that the library uses, so those types of
8 things that we have to deal with.

9 There was also another teacher we brought for the
10 housing and she came back and she said, "Really, Ms.
11 Rogers, really?"

12 And I said, "Yes, I placed you into an improved
13 kitchen. We have new cabinets."

14 And they go, "Look at my bathroom. Look at the
15 tub. I can't do that."

16 And this is from California, okay, what do I do
17 next? So, you know, a lot of things, even within our
18 positions were violating. So okay, let's give her
19 something so she can stay.

20 It's very difficult to retain highly qualified
21 staff and even to recruit because of our housing. So these
22 are the things that we have to deal with, so I wanted to
23 share that with you also. Thank you.

24 MS. BORGESON: Do we have any, at this point do
25 we have any additional questions or comments from the

1 committee?

2 Jim, let me bring the microphone to you so the
3 transcriptionist can hear the discussion.

4 MR. HASTINGS: Jimmie, can you tell me a little
5 bit more about the quarters, how many quarters you have and
6 how many are serviceable, and will you be asking for
7 quarters in the new school?

8 MR. BEGAY: Currently we have 57 quarters. They
9 were also built in 1950s, so still have a lot of problems
10 at the school. We currently have sewer backups, water
11 breaks, the same conditions as we described with the
12 windows. No air conditioning. Those type of things. So,
13 yes, we plan to have quarters built into the new school.

14 (Question inaudible.)

15 MR. BEGAY: How many are occupied? Because of
16 the -- we have close to 40 occupied quarters, the quarters
17 are in poor condition and we are trying to renovate them,
18 is one of the reasons that people don't want to move into
19 these -- if they come from our site, the reservation.

20 MR. JAMES: Housing is a huge issue on the Navajo
21 Nation. Any environmental or any economic developmental
22 area, any clinic area that are indirected on the Navajo
23 Nation, adequate housing is also always an issue. Same
24 here with Lukachukai Community School, we do not have the
25 adequate housing to accommodate our staff, and those

1 individuals that are currently occupying the quarters
2 basically don't have a choice. They don't have nowhere
3 else to live, so they accept living in these poor
4 conditions.

5 MS. BORGESON: Mike, did you have a follow-up?

6 MR. LAPLANTE: Just another question on your map
7 there. Is that a -- is that a small housing community on
8 the other side of that intersection?

9 MR. JAMES: Yeah.

10 MR. LAPLANTE: Yeah.

11 MR. JAMES: Those are Navajo Housing Authority
12 houses.

13 MR. LAPLANTE: They are on their own lagoon
14 system?

15 MR. JAMES: I believe they are.

16 MR. LAPLANTE: Adequate to connect to that one,
17 big enough to support it?

18 MR. JAMES: Yes. As far as the sewer lagoon
19 system, that is something that in today's technology and
20 ability -- to elaborate to your question -- we had talked
21 to a couple of engineering firms and also architectural
22 firms that have told us there are adequate ways to address
23 sewer lagoon issues within a particular developmental site.
24 They have a self-sustaining system.

25 The board, before I came on board, visited a site

1 in Tohajilee, New Mexico, which is right up the road from
2 us, for those who are not familiar, they have an adequate
3 system there where it's a self-sustaining sewer lagoon
4 system, so I know there are options besides what currently
5 is within the community.

6 MS. BORGESON: Any other questions from the
7 committee?

8 (No response.)

9 MS. BORGESON: All right, our time is up. Oh,
10 sorry, Patricia.

11 MS. MATTINGLY: Patricia Mattingly. How many
12 students do you service?

13 MR. JAMES: Currently we have about 300
14 students -- 368 -- my apologies.

15 MS. MATTINGLY: Okay.

16 MR. JAMES: Our highest has been over 400.

17 MS. MATTINGLY: K through eight?

18 MR. JAMES: Yes, ma'am.

19 MS. BORGESON: All right. Thank you so much
20 Lukachukai team, thank you for the presentation and good Q
21 and A session.

22 MR. JAMES: Thank you as well for your time and
23 appreciate. Have a good day.

24 (Lukachukai presentation concluded.)

25 MS. BORGESON: Our next presentation is scheduled

1 for 2:30 and that will be Quileute.

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I, IRENE DELGADO, Court Reporter for the State of New Mexico, hereby certify that I reported the foregoing proceeding, and that the foregoing pages are a true and correct transcript of my stenographic notes and were reduced to typewritten transcript through Computer-Aided Transcription; and that on the date I reported these proceedings, I was a New Mexico Certified Court Reporter. Dated at Albuquerque, New Mexico, this February 3, 2016.

IRENE DELGADO
New Mexico CCR No. 253
Expires: 12-31-2016