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THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Realizing the important part that education plays in the lives of all the residents of Topaz, the Community Council created a standing committee on "Education".

The main functions of this committee are to consider all matters of importance pertaining to education and to the maintenance of any possible improvements to the educational organization and facilities. Study is to be made and information obtained regarding the possibilities of higher education in outside schools and universities. This body will act in a liason capacity in any matters concerning education in all its phases brought to its attention by and between the residents and the administrative staff.

At this writing, the Community Council through the efforts of this committee, has sponsored a center-wide campaign to raise a scholarship fund. This scholarship fund and the awarding of scholarships is in the hands of a special scholarship committee composed principally of the Education Committee, the P. T. A., High School Faculty, and other representative members. The main purpose of this committee is to create and intensify the desire for a higher education, , as well as to afford the means and assistance in the attainment of same. Cooperation of the National Students' Relocation Council has been assured both financially and in the aid of placement of the scholarship recipients.

The present members of the Education Committee feel that the functions of this body is most important in the development of the citizens of tomorrow and that no program should be considered too ambitious in the achievement of this purpose.

May 27, 1943

EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL

7-11-44

CHAIRMAN:

Dr. Masanori Iriki, 7-12-B

MEMBERS:

I. Takahama	9-6-A
G. Takeuchi	22-1-CD
S. Hideshima	31-10-CD
M. Umehara	5-12-F

MEETING WITH EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL

ATTENDANCE

Dr. L. G. Noble	Dr. L. C. Bane
Mr. I. Takahama	Mr. G. Takeuchi
Mr. S. Hideshima	Mr. Mizote
Dr. M. Iriki)	absent
Mr. M. Munehara)	

The Education Committee handed in a written recommendation to the effect that all teachers in the schools in Topaz receive \$19 a month as their salary. The recommendation was approved by Dr. Noble.

The committee also requested the Education Section to send copies of all memos and letters to them in which school policies or school programs are affected.

In regards to Item No. 9 of the recently mimeographed "Some Rules and Regulations for Operating the Schools of Topaz" pertaining to destruction of property by students, Dr. Noble reported that the matter has been referred to Mr. Barnhart, Project Attorney, for approval.

Dr. Bane, principal of the high school, gave the following report to the committee regarding the opening of the High School:

He stated that on September 4, there will be a student assembly in the auditorium, at which assembly the Education Committee has been invited to attend. There will be greetings and remarks from Chairman of the Education Committee, Dr. Noble, and Mr. Sanford. At this time there will be an introduction of the faculty to the students.

September 4, afternoon: Registration of students will be carried on.

September 5, morning: The students would run through a short schedule of one-half hour each, which would include five periods. They would go to the classes that they are registered for so that the teachers could get the roll and so that the teachers could give them one week's assignments in advance.

Minutes--2

Dr. Bane further stated that this year there will be a considerable amount of testing of student progress and student ability with tests that have been given all over the country so that we can tell how the students in the Topaz High School compare with students all over the country. The high school is planning to give subject matter tests during the first week of school. Then another test will be given at the end of the semester so that we can announce to the people just how much the students have learned.

September 5, afternoon: This time will be spent in checking out books, supplies, get the students properly equipped, etc.

September 6, morning: They will start giving these tests. At this time a general intelligence test will be given.

September 6, afternoon: Reading tests will be given.

September 7, morning: All students will be given an English placement test.

September 7, afternoon: All students who are taking foreign language will be given a foreign language placement test, also all students taking mathematics will be given a mathematics placement test.

September 8, morning: All students taking history or civics and social sciences will be given a placement test in their fields.

September 8, afternoon: All students who are taking physics, chemistry and other sciences will have their placement test.

The Education Committee brought up the question of whether teachers were paid during the days school is not in session. They stated that some teachers have told them that they were not being paid. The committee was assured that such was not the case, that even if schools are not in session if the teachers are spending their time in preparation of lessons or taking care of other school activities and work, they were getting paid.

In regards to the need for teachers, Dr. Noble reported that the elementary schools are twelve resident teachers short while the high school was short 10, making a total of 22 resident teachers still needed for the opening of schools. The committee was assured that we are doing our best to secure teachers.

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Shimosaka, Secretary

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT
TOPAZ, UTAH

MEETING WITH EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL
In Supt's Office
October 4, 1944
10:00 a.m.

ATTENDANCE: Dr. Noble
Dr. Bane
Mr. Takahama

It was reported that no word was received from the P.T.A. regarding the parent representatives of each room in the high school and the elementary schools.

The Education Committee will again review the organization of the P.T.A., and advise us what we can do to aid in that program.

Dr. Bane has been requested to advise the Education Committee of the Council through the Superintendent's office as to how many of the students would like space provided for them to study at night.

Dr. Noble asked whether it would be possible for the Education Committee to help us secure names of five residents who would be willing to assist the schools in case emergency comes up. They would be put on part-time basis, but if they should work more than half day they would be given the time for it.

Dr. Bane said that the high school has been running one absentee a day, but during winter there will be more absentees.

It was suggested that we have five substitute teachers in each school.

Dr. Noble read the letter from Mrs. Edmund P. Evans wherein she made inquiry about the P.T.A. officers of Topaz for the coming year. Also, the copy of the letter to Mrs. Evans from Mrs. Bingham, president of California P.T.A., was read.

Mr. Takahama reported that approval was given to the Yearbook staff at the high school by the Community Council to go ahead with the Yearbook for the coming year.

It was reported that there are ten resident teachers in the elementary schools and four resident teachers in the high school.

A copy of the rules and regulations was distributed to each student in the high school.

Respectfully submitted

Teiko Hideshima
Secretary

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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT
TOPAZ, UTAH

MEETING WITH EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL
In Superintendent's Office
October 10, 1944
10:00 a.m.

ATTENDANCE: Dr. Noble
Dr. Bane
Mr. Takahama
Mr. Hideshima
Mr. Takeuchi

Mr. Takahama suggested that the following procedures be taken in the election of P. T. A. officers:

1. Each block manager will call a meeting to choose a representative from the block, and will submit the name to the block manager headquarters.
2. A combined list of all block representatives will be made, and will be given to each block representative.
3. The representatives will call a meeting in their respective blocks, and from the list will nominate the officers.
4. The names of the nominees will be turned in to the block manager headquarters.
5. An election of P.T.A. officers will be held in all the blocks.
6. The Education Committee will call on the newly elected officers, and ask for their utmost cooperation in the school program.

The above mentioned suggestion was unanimously accepted.

The Education Committee said that there were rumors that some students were taking only two periods a day. Dr. Bane said that there are only two such cases; one student can graduate by taking two classes, and the other student was supposed to have graduated last June but lacked one credit so making it up this term.

Dr. Noble reported that there has been no change on the policy of paying \$19 to all resident teachers. \$19 will be given only to those residents who had two years of college work, and will assume all classroom responsibility.

It was brought out that there are at present two \$19 resident teachers in the high school, and four in the elementary school. There are four \$16 resident teachers in the high school, and six in the elementary school.

A survey is being taken to determine how many high school students would like study facility at nights.

Dr. Noble read the memorandum from Miss Gerard, wherein she states the overcrowded condition in the public library at nights.

It was decided that we open the high school library five nights a week from 6-9 p.m. just as soon as we get a person to take charge of the students.

Dr. Bane reported that at the present time the major difficulty is taking care of emergencies. When teachers are ill, students are sent to the library, because no one is available to take over the class. It would be necessary to hire three or four persons to assist in this substituting program.

It was pointed out that we are far better organized in discipline than last year.

The Education Committee wondered whether the high school yearbook for this year could be made more simpler and cheaper than last year, yet attractive; perhaps spend about \$1500 instead of \$2500, as the population is decreasing, and if we did use the same amount of money, it would be too much of a burden on the residents.

Since Mr. Maggiora is taking charge of the yearbook, it was suggested that we ask him to look into this matter, and also discuss it with the yearbook staff.

Respectfully submitted

Teiko Hideshima
Secretary

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT
TOPAZ, UTAH

M I N U T E S

MEETING WITH EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL

In Supt's Office

November 1, 1944

10:00 a.m.

ATTENDANCE: Dr. Noble, Dr. Bane, Miss Thorp, Mr. Takahama,
and Mr. Hideshima

The Education Committee suggested that we have the same type of Yearbook as last year.

The question of P.T.A. officers was brought up. A list of representatives of all the blocks were given to the block representative, asking the representative to call a meeting in his block to nominate officers. It was reported that the response was very poor. Mrs. Yatabe is writing another letter to the blocks who did not respond to the request. The Education Committee said that it would be another week or so before P.T.A. officers are elected. They will notify us as soon as the result is known.

Dr. Noble said that last year we had about 800 P.T.A. members.

A discussion was held on the labor situation in the Education Section. Dr. Noble said that the janitor reduction is the most serious problem before us.

Miss Thorp reported that on Monday, Nov. 6, a first grade resident teacher is terminating, and the following week, a second grade resident teacher is terminating. She said that there are no one available to replace them.

Dr. Noble said that if we can't find anyone to replace them, then either the kindergarten be closed and kindergarten teacher be asked to take care of the first and second grades, or first and second grades be run on part-time basis.

It was suggested by the Education Committee that we ask the block managers to explain the situation at the elementary school in their blocks, and ask for help.

Miss Thorp said that there are about twenty-two pupils in one class and twenty-four pupils in the other class.

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The Education Committee asked whether anything was done to open the high school library at nights.

Dr. Noble said that since we can't get anyone to take supervision at nights that we ask the present library staff to work on a staggered schedule. The three resident librarians now working under Mrs. Merrill will be permitted to take ^{off} what time they put in at nights during the day. If the library is to open there must be enough students present to justify keeping it open. As soon as arrangements are made, the high school library will open.

Respectfully submitted

Teiko Hideshima
Secretary

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT
TOPAZ, UTAH

M I N U T E S

MEETING WITH THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL
In Superintendent's Office
November 14, 1944
10:00 a.m.

ATTENDANCE: Dr. Noble, Dr. Bane, Miss Thorp, Mr. Takahama,
Mr. Hideshima, and Mr. Takeuchi

AGENDA

1. First grade elementary school teacher
2. P.T.A. election
3. Meritorious awards to outstanding students
4. \$19 for resident teachers
5. Personnel in Education
6. Question of parties

* * *

1. Miss Thorp reported that the first grade class in the elementary school will be without a teacher as Mrs. Kubota plans on terminating.

Dr. Noble said that Miss Emma Johnson is being contacted and may possibly fill this position. It will take another two weeks, so in the meantime someone must be found to take over this class. Mr. Takahama said that he would contact Miss Omura, former elementary teacher, and ask her to help us.

2. The Education Committee reported that tomorrow they are going to open up the votes, which will determine the P.T.A. officers. The Committee will inform us of the result of the election.

3. The Committee wanted to know the number of awards the City Council should give. Dr. Noble said possibly four; to the outstanding boy and girl in the high school; and to the outstanding boy and girl in the junior high school. The Committee would take this up with the councilmen and report to us their reaction.

4. Since the quota in appointive personnel is not full, Mr. Takeuchi wondered why that surplus money couldn't be used in paying all resident teachers \$19.

Dr. Noble said that the surplus money goes back to the U.S. Treasury, and the administration had no authority to allocate these funds to such use.

The Education Committee wanted to know what happened to the request which was sent to Washington concerning the paying of \$19 to resident teachers. Mr. Noble will contact Mr. Sanford in this matter.

It was explained by Dr. Bane that Washington office had liberalized the previous regulation, in that \$19 would be paid if a person has had two years of college education and at least twelve hours in education. No one in the high school at present can fulfill this requirement. The same is true in the elementary school.

5. At present there are twenty appointive teachers and thirteen classified as assistant teachers in the high school. In the elementary school, there are twelve appointive teachers and eleven assistant teachers.

6. Miss Thorp said that she took up the question of parties with the teachers at the Saturday meeting. It was pointed out that there is no fund in the school budget providing for parties.

Dr. Noble said that the Commissary and the Mess Committee of the Council have been very kind to the Education Section about providing cookies and other things for parties to the elementary and secondary schools.

Respectfully submitted

Teiko Hideshima
Secretary

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Central Utah Project
Topaz, Utah

M I N U T E S

MEETING WITH THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL
In Superintendent's Office
November 21, 1944
10:00 a.m.

ATTENDANCE: Dr. Noble Mr. Hideshima
 Mr. Takahama Mr. Takeuchi

AGENDA

1. Meritorious awards
2. Elementary School
3. Christmas vacation
4. Honor assembly
5. Open House at the elementary school
6. Consolidation of block 8 and 41

1. The Education Committee reported that the City Council is willing to give four meritorious awards to outstanding students in the junior and senior high school. The Education Committee left the purchasing and engraving up to Dr. Noble. What these medals signify will be determined by the high school.

2. In the elementary school, there are at present one first grade and one second grade classes run on part-time basis. Since these grades are more important than the kindergarten, and since there will likely to be no relief on those classes, Dr. Noble asked the Education Committee their reaction if the kindergarten were discontinued, making it possible for the two classes to run on full time basis. There are 50 children in kindergarten in block 8, and 52 children in block 41.

The Education Committee felt that this would be the wisest move to make in regards to the matter if the elementary school could be helped thereby.

Five years old children are now attending pre-school. Dr. Noble asked whether it would be possible to accommodate the kindergarten children in the pre-school. This is unlikely at the present.

It was reported that there may be a possibility of getting some of the teachers working in the adult education to help with the elementary school program. This will be given further study.

3. Christmas vacation for school children is from December 22 to January 2.

4. It was reported that the high school is planning on holding an honor assembly at the end of the first semester. It is planned to make this program an outstanding event. Dr. Bane is in charge.

5. The elementary school is holding an Open-House for parents on Wednesday, November 22. Parents may visit classes from 1:30 to 2:30. Tea will be served after the visiting is over.

6. Miss Thorp has made a survey of the rooms vacant in block 8. She said the two elementary schools could be consolidated in block 8.

The problem we are faced with is that some students living in the farther end will have to walk $3/4$ mile to school. The consolidation of the schools will mean the saving of about two teachers. At present there are 304 pupils in block 41 elementary school, and 310 in block 8.

The Education Committee said that there will be some protests from the parents, and that the saving of two teachers does not present a good reason to the residents for consolidating the schools. The Education Committee will present this issue to the Council, get their reaction, and report to the group.

Respectfully submitted,

Teiko Hideshima, Secretary

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT
TOPAZ, UTAH

MEETING WITH THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL
In Superintendent's Office
November 28, 1944
10:00 a.m.

ATTENDANCE: Dr. Noble
 Dr. Bane
 Miss Thorp
 Mr. Hideshima

AGENDA

1. Consolidation of elementary schools
2. P.T.A.
3. Prospective resident teachers for high school
4. Correction on last week's minutes.

* * *

1. The Education Committee reported that as yet the matter of consolidation of the elementary schools has not been taken up with the Council. Dr. Noble asked the Committee to get a definite reaction and recommendation from the Council, so further plans can be made. The Committee will report back to us regarding this matter. Dr. Noble stated that the consolidation would not in any way affect the people living in block 8 and 41.

2. It was reported that as yet no one has accepted the office of presidency of P.T.A. It was brought out that Isseis hesitate to accept the responsibility as they are unable to speak good English. Since Mr. Takahama, who is in charge of this matter, was not present, we were unable to get further information regarding the P.T.A. officers.

It was suggested by Miss Thorp that we have two P.T.A. presidents; one resident and one appointive.

3. Mr. Yakahi and Mr. Konda were recommended as possible teachers for the high school. The Education Committee will contact them and report back to us.

4. There was an error in last week's minutes #2 paragraph three. It should read, "Three year old children are now attending pre-school. Dr. Noble asked whether it would be possible to accommodate the kindergarten children in the pre-school if the three year old were eliminated. This is unlikely at the present."

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Teiko Hideshima
Secretary

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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT
TOPAZ, UTAH

M I N U T E S

MEETING WITH THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL
In Superintendent's Office
December 12, 1944
10:30 a.m.

ATTENDANCE:	Dr. Noble	Mr. Hideshima
	Dr. Bane	Mr. Takeuchi
	Miss Thorp	Mr. Mizote
	Mr. Narahara	

AGENDA

1. Consolidation of elementary schools
2. Personnel
3. High School football jerseys
4. Christmas parties
5. Christmas assemblies
6. P.T.A.

* * *

1. It was reported by Mr. Narahara, Chairman of the Council, that the Council in general is not in favor of the consolidation of the elementary schools. It is their recommendation that elementary schools be left as they are, unless there should be a very good reason for consolidating the schools.

Dr. Noble emphasized regarding consolidation:

1. The children living in the farther end of the camp will have to walk quite a distance each day as it is not likely that transportation will be provided for the children by WRA. It would be helpful if arrangements were made for the children to eat at D.H. 8.
2. The cold winter weather
3. Inadequate lighting facility in some new rooms that would have to be used in block 8.

The following points were brought out in favor of consolidation:

1. It would improve the school program in that teacher substitution can be more easily handled
2. Schools can be run more effectively through better balanced class rooms.
3. It would be advantageous to the children from an educational view point in that there could be better supervision
4. The saving of about two teachers.

It was decided that the elementary schools will not be consolidated for the time being. If the project should be open for another school year, this matter will be given further consideration.

Mr. Narahara stated that if circumstances should make it necessary to consolidate the schools, and it would benefit the residents, the Council will give their fullest cooperation.

2. Mr. Narahara asked whether the personnel ceiling in appointive teachers is fair as far as schools are concerned. Dr. Noble stated that elementary school can be carried on smoothly if we have fourteen teachers we are allowed plus the resident teachers. At present there are twelve appointive teachers. If the high school appointive teaching personnel quota of 22 can be filled up, the high school program can be run effectively.

Miss Thorp reported that two resident and one appointive teachers have resigned this month, and one more appointive teacher has handed in her resignation effective Dec. 31st. She said that Mrs. Takiguchi is temporarily helping out the kindergarten until the end of the semester.

It was suggested that we appeal to the residents and ask them to give their services to the education section.

Mr. Narahara asked Dr. Noble to write up the qualifications required of the resident teachers for elementary school and high school. Dr. Noble said that anyone with a college education, or anyone with college training who has interest in the teaching field can qualify for a teaching position either in the high school or elementary school.

It was emphasized that in the main the school program is coming along very well.

3. Dr. Bane reported on the disappearance of the football jerseys. Mr. Smith has talked to the boys, but as yet the jerseys have not been returned. In order to protect the high school, Dr. Bane said that he would have to report this to the Internal Security, and cancel all the games until they are returned.

13 out of 18 already returned
according to Noble 12/20/47

Dr. Noble and Mr. Narahara said that before reporting this to the Internal Security, Dr. Bane should talk to the boys in charge of the team, and let them talk to the team.

4. Miss Thorp asked whether it would be all right for the teachers to give gifts and parties to their children. Dr. Noble brought out the fact that a letter was sent out asking the teachers not to give parties to their class as it would be hard on the teachers, especially the residents. Miss Thorp said that the elementary school wishes very much to give the children the thrill of Christmas from the school itself.

Mr. Narahara said that since each block and the Inter-Faith group are planning on giving the children presents and parties, it would not be necessary for the elementary school to worry about it. He said that the thought alone is very nice, and in order to make the Education point of view clear to the residents, he will get the cooperation from the council and block managers in informing the residents how the Education feels about this matter.

5. The elementary school is planning to hold a Christmas assembly next week. At that time all the children in the elementary schools will get together in the auditorium to sing Christmas carols to get in the spirit of Christmas.

Mr. Narahara suggested that we should ask the Co-Op to show cartoons at the assembly.

The high school is planning to have a Christmas assembly. It will be put on by the Junior class. Mr. Tatsuno will be the speaker. There will be community singing and vocal solos.

6. A discussion was held regarding the PTA. It was decided that Dr. Noble would call a meeting of all block PTA representatives in his office on Wednesday, December 20, at 2:30 p.m. The main purpose of this meeting is to elect the PTA officers. The importance of this meeting will be stressed to the residents through the councilmen and the block managers. Representative from each block will be requested to come as this organization is very important to the success of the education program. A memorandum will be sent from Dr. Noble to the Council, Block Managers, and block PTA representatives asking them to attend this important meeting.

Respectfully submitted

Teiko Hideshima
Secretary

COPY

TEACHERS MONTHLY REPORT TO DEPT. HEADS

NAME Cleo D. Bishop

DATE January 27, 1945

SCHOOL Topaz High School

GRADE Director, Ph. Ed. Dept.

Most worthwhile experience of the past month.

The basketball trip to Mt. Pleasant and Monroe on Jan. 9th and 10th, was a most worthwhile experience for the boys and public relations in general. We arrived at Mt. Pleasant about 3 P.M. The Superintendent of the Wasatch Academy met us and showed us around the school campus and through the school building. He called our attention to many things of general interest. After the game we were all invited to join the boys at the boys' dormitory, where we cleaned up and associated with the Wasatch boys until dinner time. At the sound of the dinner bell we adjourned to the school dining hall where about 225 students regularly eat three meals a day. During the meal the whole Wasatch Academy student body sang a clever little song in which they had the Topaz boys stand up and take a bow as victors of the afternoon game. One of our boys expressed appreciation to the entire student body for the fine hospitality shown to them. An exceptionally fine spirit prevailed throughout our stay with them.

The next day we motored to Monroe arriving there at 2 P.M. We were met by the Social Science teacher, Mr. Melville, who persuaded the entire team to attend his class and answer questions asked by his Social Science students. So in about ten minutes after arrival we found ourselves standing in front of about one hundred wide-eyed high school students. Then the fire works began. During the 45 minutes period our Topaz boys were asked 50 to 75 questions to which ready and frank answers were given. These questions were varied and generally quite personal, dealing mostly with evacuation experiences, life in relocation centers, Japanese American participation in war effort and attitudes and personal feelings arising from the treatment received from the U.S. War Dept. One of the Topaz boys asked how they as students felt about the Japanese Americans, and if they would be willing to accept Japanese Americans into their school on an equal par with any other American. The answer was a loud affirmative. This answer made our boys feel very fine. At this point we thanked Mr. Melville, and the students for the opportunity of meeting with them in such a discussion; and excused ourselves and proceeded to our dressing room where we prepared for our game. (I personally feel that this classroom experience was of far more value to the boys and public relations in general than winning the game, or any other aspect of the trip.) I'm sure that good public relations was raised to a "new high" as between the students and citizens of Monroe and Japanese Americans in general.