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DESERT VIEW STUDENT COUNCIL AT TOPAZ

by

RUSSELL A. BANKSON

PROJECT REPORTS DIVISION  
Historical Section



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REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF STUDENT COUNCIL OF THE  
DESERT VIEW SCHOOL, TOPAZ, UTAH

M I N U T E S

October 6, 1943

The first meeting of the Student Council of the Desert View School was held on Wednesday, October 6, 1943, in room 41-8-AB. The Student Council is composed of the two representatives from each class. They are:

1st Grade	Miss Misawa's class	Kiyoshi Ogawa Yachiyo Kami
1st Grade	Miss Okawachi's class	Jane Sasaki Jon Yatabe
2nd Grade	Mrs. Morley's class	Masahiko Adachi Utako Nishimoto
L- 3rd Grade	Miss Wyckoff's class	Mamoru Takeuchi Nancy Incuye
H- 3rd Grade	Miss Omura's class	Keiko Saito Willie Ozawa
L- 4th Grade	Miss Taniguchi's class	Kikuko Matsumoto Hideo Tanaka
H- 4th Grade	Miss M. Yamamoto's class	Ruth Koide Edwin Oki
L- 5th Grade	Miss Matsutani's class	Helen Harano Toshiro Katsura
L- 6th Grade	Mr. Barrus' Class	Richard Sekiguchi Ida Fukuhara

The meeting was called to order by Miss Robertson, Principal of Topaz Elementary Schools. She explained the purpose of the student council. It is to discuss and try to work out problems and plans concerning student activities.

Officers for the council were elected. They are as follows:

Helen Harano	President
Richard Sekiguchi	Vice President
Toshiro Katsura	Secretary

The members of the council will serve for two months. Miss Taniguch was appointed faculty advisor.



Each class representative was requested to bring topics for discussion.

October 13, 1943

There were a few changes and additions made to the list of class representatives. They are:

L-3rd Grade	Miss M. Yamamoto's class	Nobu Yui Eiko Suyehiro
L-5th Grade	Miss Matsutani's class	Helen Harano George Takagi
1-5th Grade	Miss Matsunami's class	Sumika Yamashita Toshiro Katsura
L-6th Grade	Mr. Barrus' class	Keigo Takeuchi Ida Kukuvara
L-6th Grade	Mrs. Brubaker's class	Richard Sekiguchi Tsuneke Hirose

The business of this meeting centered about these items for discussion:

1. Organization of a Junior Traffic Patrol
2. Formation of Assembly committee.
3. Halloween Party for the whole school.
4. More footballs and playground equipment is needed.

October 20, 1943

As to Halloween parties, it seems that classes preferred individual room parties.

Assembly committee suggested to have a Thanksgiving party or Christmas program.

There was not enough response to find out the general opinion of the school on the matter of traffic committee.

Toshiro Katsura resigned his office of secretary to become Treasurer. Sumika Yamashita was appointed to take his place.



The school song will remain "Desert View for You"; the colors "red and white"; the symbol "Indian Head".

October 27, 1943

It was suggested that the traffic committee wear arm bands to designate the members who are responsible to see that children play fair on the school grounds.

It was planned to have a speaker from the Internal Security Division to discuss law and order to the council and traffic committee. Each class from the third grade up is asked to select two boys and two girls to serve on the traffic committee.

Housekeeping committee was suggested to see that school children help keep the school grounds and buildings clean.

November 3, 1943

The members of the traffic committee were present at this meeting. Red and white were chosen for the colors of the armbands. Desert View School and Traffic Patrol will appear on the Indian head symbol as the main design of the band.

A letter written by a parent concerning the actions of some school children as scratching faces, biting arms and punching the abdomen was read to the council. In regard to this letter the council urges the cooperation of all school children and teachers in helping children realize the danger of such actions.

November 10, 1943

Mr. Lamb was invited to speak to the council but he was not able to attend. Miss Robertson was also invited to speak to us. She led the discussion on traffic problems and safety. These traffic suggestions were made.

1. Look before you cross the streets.
2. Stop before crossing a street when a truck or car is coming.
3. Piggy Back is dangerous.
4. Take time in crossing street.



Miss Robertson suggested that a letter be written to the council of the Mountain View School about holding a joint meeting for the purpose of hearing Mr. Roof of the Internal Security Division. It hoped that he may be able to help on traffic rules.

November 17, 1943

School rules were suggested by all representatives. Many rules were suggested. All the submitted rules were considered and classified as follows:

A. Traffic Suggestions:

1. Always be on the alert.
2. When walking on the highway face approaching traffic.
3. Do not play on the streets.
4. Do not hitch rides on trucks or cars.
5. Do not jump on or off moving vehicles.

B. Playground Rules:

1. Cooperate and play fair on the playground equipment.
2. Let us not wax the slide or go down head first.
3. Do not unfasten chains on swings. There is the danger of the seat not being fastened properly.
4. Do not put feet inside of merry-go-round or go too near the moving merry-go-round.
5. Do not stand too close to the maypole when in use.
6. Do not play roughly on the traveling bars.

C. Safety:

1. Do not play with matches.
2. Neck rides are dangerous.
3. Do not throw coal, rocks or apple cores at people.
4. Do not write on buildings.
5. Do not play in latrines.

It was suggested that the traffic patrol be divided into groups to watch certain sections of the school block and playground.

It was suggested to have a school newspaper. "Desert View News" and "Desert View Flash" were suggested as names for the paper. If possible a special Thanksgiving edition



was considered. All classes are asked to contribute articles.

November 22, 1943

A joint meeting of the student councils of the two schools was held at twelve o'clock in 41-11-C. It was called to order by Helen Harano, president of the Desert View Council.

Mr. Roof of the Internal Security Division was the principal speaker. He suggested that we elect a captain for the patrol. There will be two sergeants and two junior traffic members from each class under him. The traffic patrol will be on duty before and after school at certain intersections. A certain patrol will be on duty on the playground during recess. Mr. Roof suggested that red flags be made for signals. He said that the school safety patrol will have the cooperation of the Internal Security Division.

November 24, 1943

The plan of organization of the traffic patrol as suggested by Mr. Roof was considered. Election of a captain and assignments of districts will be made at the next meeting.

The "Desert View News" was ready for distribution today so most of the meeting time was used for this purpose. The committee in charge of the newspaper was able to circulate two hundred seventy copies of the Thanksgiving edition. The students who worked on the paper are Keigo Takeuchi, chairman, Sumika Yamashita, Tomio , Idah Fukuhara, Misako Chiwaki and Helen Harano. It is to be noted that Miss Kusunoki typed the stencil for the newspaper.

Copies of the newspaper with an attached letter were sent to Mr. Noble, Miss Robertson, Mr. Nuttall and Mr. Roof.

December 1, 1943

Members of the traffic committee were asked to attend this meeting for the purpose of electing a captain. Mamoru Matsuzaki was elected.

The upper elementary classes were assigned to districts to watch school crossing streets on the way to school. Two classes were assigned to serve near the playgrounds.



It is hoped that some induction ceremony be held in the presence of Mr. Roof and other officials. If this is not possible, Captain Matsuzaki hopes to start his patrol on Monday, December 6th.

It was announced that the faculty advisor's term of two months has expired. Mr. Barrus has been appointed as the new advisor. After Christmas a new Council will be elected.

It was announced that the Vice-president and Treasurer take the place of the president and secretary respectively.