

**ATTENTION**

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## **Isleta Elementary School Transitions to a Tribally Controlled Grant School**

**Attention All Isleta Tribal Community members**—stand proud and tall! The future of our young elementary students will begin a historic event on July 1, 2015 (anticipated start date). The Isleta Elementary School is going to change ownership from a Bureau of Indian Education controlled school to a Pueblo of Isleta Tribally Controlled Grant School.

This is an opportune occasion to begin to take full advantage of the benefits a Tribally Controlled School. This process will begin to create a comprehensive educational system within our community. We as the POI will establish a quality education, competitive with any public school in New Mexico. By taking control of the IES we also will be able to weave into our children's education our traditional language and culture throughout their school day. Another goal is to demonstrate and improve the school's technology—currently 8 years old—and bring the 21<sup>st</sup> Century to our children.

The Pueblo of Isleta Tribal Council, the Governor and his Administration, submitted the Initial Application to the Bureau of Indian Education on August 29, 2014. This Initial Application outlined the POI Tribe's intent and purpose to pursue a P.L. 100-297 Tribally Controlled Grant School. The application clearly indicated that the POI is capable and has all necessary components to assume control of the Isleta Elementary School's educational programs and operations. The Initial Application also included assuming control of the Food Services, Transportation services, and Facilities Management and Maintenance programs.

On October 14, 2014 the POI Tribal Council, Governor's Office and Febasa Consulting (owned by POI tribal member Debbie Lente-Jojola and Consultant Albert Cherino, Jr.) met with the IES staff and School Board to provide information and updates on the application process and transition. A meeting with the IES parents was also scheduled, but had to be postponed due to religious ceremonies occurring that same evening. It will be rescheduled for a future date.

Attached you will find a Question and Answer format that we hope will dispel any misunderstandings or misinformation about a P.L. 100-297 Tribally Controlled Grant School.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Isleta Elementary School Transition Team for further information and/or ideas. Please call the POI Governor's Office at (505) 869-3111 with your questions and/or comments. The team is composed of: Febasa Consulting, Tribal Council, Governor and his Administration, and the POI Departments of Legal Counsel, Human Resources, Management Information Systems, Treasurers Office, Procurement and the Department of Education.

Respectfully, Isleta Elementary School Transition Team.