## 24th Navajo Nation Council extends their condolences to friends and family of Kiarra Alma Gordon

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 30, 2022 WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. - Hon. Speaker Seth Damon extends his deepest condolences to the friends and family of Kiarra Alma Gordon, a 17-yearold talented and bright student who tragically passed away early Sunday morning due to a bus crash.

"I am deeply saddened to hear the tragic passing of Kiarra and offer my heartfelt condolences to her family and friends during this terrible time," said Speaker Damon. "There are no right words to express the grief and pain that those closest to her are experiencing, but it is through prayer that the 24th Navajo Nation Council and I hope you can find solace knowing how much Kiarra brightened so many people's day."

Around 9:30 a.m. in the eastbound lanes of I-40 at milepost 328, Arizona State Troopers responded to a crash near Sanders, Ariz. It was reported that a school bus carrying 23 people headed towards PHOTO: Kiarra Alma Gordon pictured in volleyball Window Rock, Ariz. for a field trip was rear-ended by jersey.



a semi-truck, resulting in the passing of Kiarra Alma Gordon and six other students being injured.

Kiarra was born on July 25, 2005, and was Kinyaa'áanii (Towering House Clan), born for Kinyaa'áanii, and her maternal and paternal grandfathers were Tódich'ii'nii (Bitter Water Clan). She was from Wide Ruins, Ariz, and attended Holbrook Indian School as an eleventh grader, where she was known for being focused on her education.

Kiarra Alma Gordon is survived by her mother, Fanassa Ashley, and three young brothers; Trent, Trever, and Tryce Gordon, maternal grandmother; Dina Clark, paternal grandmother; Mary Chester, and paternal grandfather; Jesse Gordon. According to those closest to her, Kiarra was described as a sweet, smart, and talented young woman who loved sports.

For affected students and staff, trauma therapy counselors and chaplains are of service at Holbrook Indian School. Currently, funeral service arrangements are still being resolved but donations may be made via Zelle to Kiarra's mother, Fanassa Ashley at (480) 329-8551.