



25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Speaker Curley and Delegate Tso congratulate Tuba City Elementary School student leaders



Speaker Crystalyne Curley and Council Delegate Otto Tso celebrated the inauguration of Diné student leaders.

TUBA CITY, Ariz. — 25th Navajo Nation Speaker Crystalyne Curley and Council Delegate Otto Tso joined students, educators, and families at Tuba City Elementary School on Monday, to celebrate the inauguration of Diné student leaders, elected by their peers through the school's Navajo Language Program.

Led by Navajo language teacher Royd R. Lee, the Navajo Language Program inspires students to embrace leadership roles while strengthening their knowledge of Navajo language, culture, and traditions.

During the ceremony, Speaker Curley and Delegate Tso congratulated the newly inaugurated student leaders and commended the school for fostering Navajo language and identity at a young age.

“Supporting our children in learning and speaking Diné bizaad ensures that our culture and identity remain strong for generations to come,” said Speaker Curley. “The program empowers students to be leaders in both their education and their communities.”

The student government structure was modeled after the state of Arizona and Navajo Nation governments, with elected positions including president, vice president, chapter president and vice president, council delegates, governors, and lieutenant governors. All of the new

student leaders were administered the oath of office during Monday's ceremony.

Council Delegate Tso, who represents the Tuba City community, highlighted the importance of community and family involvement in revitalizing Navajo language and culture.

"Do your best and do what feels right in your heart," said Delegate Tso. "We must continue to invest in our children's education and their Navajo language journey. Programs like this are vital in helping our students carry forward who we are as Diné people."

The event included traditional songs, student presentations, and the official swearing-in of the student leaders. Parents, school staff, and community members were in attendance to offer their support and encouragement.

The 25th Navajo Nation Council recognizes and thanks the Tuba City Elementary School for prioritizing educational initiatives that promote Navajo language and culture.

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