



SERVING TRIBAL COMMUNITIES

We look forward to working in partnership with Tribes. Through the participation of tribal leaders, I am confident we can meet the needs of the Nation and further secure the future of American Indian and Alaska Native people.

Secretary Gale A. Norton, September 22, 2004

To advance quality of life for tribal communities, the 2006 budget includes \$2.2 billion for programs in the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The budget provides new funding to address operations and facility conditions at BIA-funded detention centers, continues to address the repair and replacement of BIA elementary and secondary schools, initiates a program of leadership academies for BIA schools, and invests in economic development for Indian Tribes.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND JUSTICE IN INDIAN COUNTRY

The BIA provides direct assistance to Tribes for law enforcement programs, including uniform patrol, criminal investigations, detention, and dispatch on approximately 56 million acres of Indian Country in 35 States. The Department of Justice and BIA began a joint initiative in 1999 to improve public safety and justice in Indian Country. Since then, funding for BIA law enforcement programs has grown by 85 percent, and Justice has provided over \$128 million in funding to construct or expand 21 detention centers serving Indian populations. Justice has also provided multi-year grant money to establish law enforcement positions under the Community Oriented Policing Services program in Indian Country.

Because of the magnitude of challenges that existed in 1999 and that continue to today, law enforcement in Indian Country remains a critical issue in 2006. Crime rates in Indian Country far exceed the national average. Further, in September 2004, the Office of the Inspector General released an assessment of Indian detention facilities that documented poor conditions at many existing BIA and tribal detention centers. The IG report made 25 recommendations to correct deficiencies that impact the safety and security of detention center staff and inmates.

To address several of the recommendations contained in the IG report, the 2006 request includes a \$19.2 million increase for law enforcement in Indian Country. The funding will provide an additional \$4.4 million for detention center facilities improvements and repairs, almost doubling the program and allowing full renovation of three facilities and major rehabilitation at several other sites. The request provides an increase of \$4.1 million for staffing at four new detention centers being built by Tribes with Justice grants that will be certified for occupancy in 2006, and \$3.2 million for facility operations and maintenance funding for the 19 detention centers built with Justice grants since 2001. The proposal also provides \$5.0 million to contract for placement of arrested and convicted individuals, both adult and juvenile, in safe and secure environments that meet national standards for detention facilities when adequate BIA facilities are not available.

To address law enforcement operations, the budget proposes an additional \$2.5 million for 33 law enforcement officers, both BIA and tribal, to improve law enforcement presence in areas with high levels of violent crime in Indian Country along the southwest border and the Pacific northwest.

The No Child Left Behind Act is the President's commitment that all federally funded schools must provide students with a quality education. The BIA students and parents can expect that our schools also will carry forward that vision.

Secretary Gale A. Norton, March 25, 2004

INDIAN EDUCATION

Providing quality educational opportunities from early childhood through adulthood is a key BIA goal. Education is the cornerstone of a viable and prosperous future for tribal governments and Native Americans. Almost 48,000 students in 23 States attend the 184 elementary and secondary schools that form the BIA school system. The BIA operates one-third of these schools. The other two-thirds are operated under contracts or grants to Tribes or other tribal organizations. In addition to primary and secondary education, the BIA budget also supports higher education in Indian Country, complementing funds from the Department of Education and other sources.

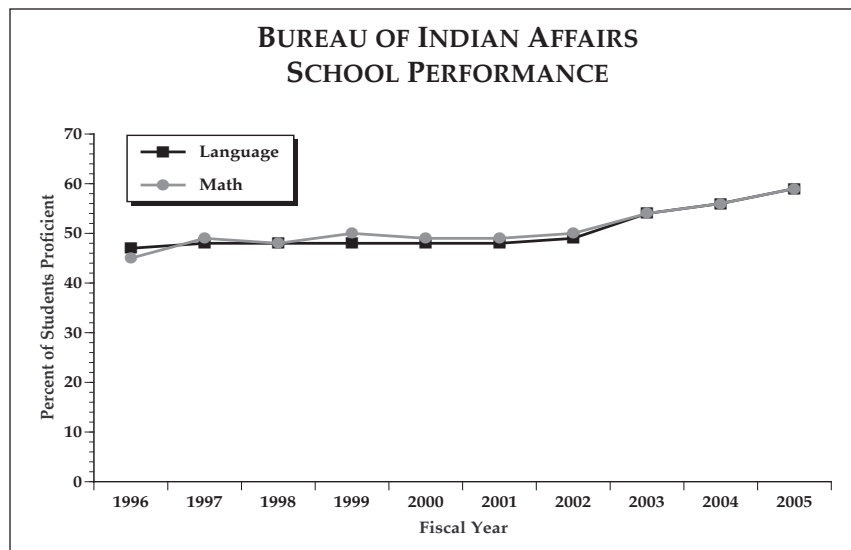
In January 2002, the President signed into law the No Child Left Behind Act, a landmark education legislation that will help strengthen BIA-funded schools through several components, including a provision that extends funding eligibility for Department of Education reading programs to the BIA school system. The BIA is working in partnership with tribal representatives to fully implement the Act, with the goals of increased accountability and student achievement at all BIA schools. Implementation of the Act, together with a strong school construction program, will ensure that Indian children receive a quality education in a safe learning environment.

Leadership Academies — As a complement to

BIA's implementation of the No Child Left Behind Act, and recognizing the special needs of Indian children, BIA is also working with Tribes to pilot a new learning philosophy under the umbrella of a pilot program to turn BIA schools into leadership academies. Through leadership academies, BIA hopes to instill in students a life-long desire and aptitude for learning and encourage enrollment in and completion of post-secondary education.

Central to the success of the leadership academies is a staff well trained in current and progressive teaching modalities and curriculum, as well as the motivational focus and environment to help students gain a positive attitude towards learning, conform to established behavior and mental discipline teachings, meet high academic standards, and learn skills required to become successful leaders in their community.

Although some BIA schools have experienced improvements in student achievement, 117 of



the 184 schools have failed to make adequate yearly progress as required by the No Child Left Behind Act. To address the specific needs of Indian children, the 2006 budget includes \$2.0 million to pilot leadership academies at four BIA schools. Leadership academies elsewhere

have been successful in significantly raising the academic performance of school children and motivating them to continue their education.

Examples of successful models can be found in the IDEA charter school in Texas and the SEED school in Washington, D.C. At both these schools, the aver-

I really believe that if we're going to be successful in economic development as Indian people, it has to start with our young people. We need to start cultivating the attitude of success. We have never taught success 101 in our school.

Assistant Secretary Dave Anderson, July 21, 2004

age seventh grader had a fifth-grade reading level upon entry to the school. At graduation, all students participating in the program were accepted for admission to post-secondary institutions.

The BIA will employ the lessons learned from these successful models and develop a model that focuses on the cultural and educational needs of Indian children. The model will employ a specially formulated school curriculum to instill leadership skills and characteristics in students as preparation for future success both in adult learning and economic endeavors.



The BIA will engage tribal communities to sponsor leadership academies and work cooperatively with them to implement a leadership curriculum within the core mission of bureau-funded schools. The curriculum is currently under development and will be implemented in concert with the regular school curriculum through an extended school day and school year. It will include instructional elements in financial management, small business entrepreneurship, motivation, team leadership, and project management. The funding requested for 2006 will be used to hire and train additional staff, and to develop and implement the leadership academy curriculum.

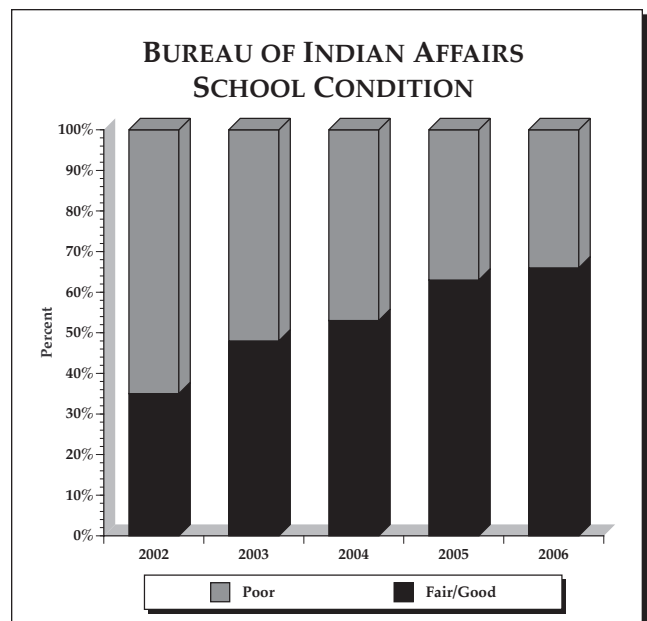
Indian School Repair and Construction — In the 2000 campaign, the President made a commitment to provide funding to replace, rebuild, and repair crumbling schools so Indian children would have

safe and nurturing places to learn. Between 2001 and 2005, the President and the Congress have provided \$1.4 billion for the Indian school construction program, resulting in repairs or replacements underway for all 20 schools on the 2001 BIA school replacement priority list, as well as 14 additional schools on subsequent priority lists or funded through the cost-share demonstration program.

Significant progress has been made. In 2001, 35 percent of schools were in good or fair condition and 65 percent of schools were in poor condition. After completion of the work funded through 2006, those numbers will be reversed, with 65 percent of schools in fair or good condition, showing marked improvement in the condition of schools. The facilities condition index for the BIA school system as a whole will improve from .266 to .101.

In March 2004, a new replacement school construction priority list was published in the Federal Register. The priority list identified 14 schools in need of replacement due to significant health and safety concerns. The list was developed using a process that focused on health and safety, and included visits to each school by a team of evaluators.

The 2005 appropriation will allow BIA to fund the



remaining six schools from previous priority lists, and to fund the first school on the new list, the Dilcon Boarding School in Arizona, as well as three cost-share demonstration schools and six major facilities and improvement repair projects.

The 2006 budget for education construction totals \$173.9 million. This will provide funding for the second school on the new priority list, Porcupine Day School in South Dakota, and for phase one of a large project to replace the third school on the priority list, Crownpoint Community School in New Mexico. The funding level allows the program to focus on building the schools already funded for construction. Between 2001 and 2005, funding was appropriated for 34 replacement schools. Nine of these schools have been completed and are operating. Another 11 will be completed in 2005 and 2006.

The Education Facilities Improvement and Repair program is funded at \$128.4 million. The 2006 request will fund four major facilities and improvement projects, annual maintenance needs, and minor repair projects to address critical health and safety concerns, non-compliance with code standards, and program deficiencies at existing education facilities.

In response to PART findings, BIA has improved

efficiency and performance accountability in the school construction program by establishing the following long-term goals:

- By 2008, construct 100 percent of replacement schools in four years from planning and design through construction.
- Reduce the average cost per square foot on academic construction projects from \$198 in 2004 to \$161 in 2008, adjusted for inflation.
- Reduce excess space by 300,000 square feet annually.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

High unemployment rates on reservations are one of the greatest challenges facing Indian Country. The 2006 budget includes \$20.8 million for job placement and training, economic development, and the guaranteed loan program. Within this amount the budget includes \$500,000 to establish an Economic Development Commission to investigate impediments to tribal business development, and develop an operational model for tribal businesses. This increase supports Indian economic development and the BIA performance goal to reduce unemployment on Indian reservations.

