23rd Navajo Nation Council
Office of the Speaker

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Delegate Yazzie welcomes students to the Navajo Nation Council Chamber

PHOTO: Council Delegate Edmund Yazzie gives tour of the Navajo Council Chambers to students from Mariano Lake Community School on October 4, 2016.

WINDOW ROCK – On Tuesday, Council Delegate Edmund Yazzie (Churchrock, Iyanbito, Mariano Lake, Pinedale, Smith Lake, Thoreau) welcomed students from Mariano Lake Community School to tour the Navajo Nation Council Chamber and legislative offices.

"It's great to see our Navajo children visit the capital of the Navajo Nation to learn about our government. Our children are our future and as tribal leaders, it's our job to encourage and inspire them to be involved," stated Delegate Yazzie, who represents the community of Mariano Lake, which is located 30-miles west of Gallup, NM.

The 35 students received an overview of the Navajo Nation legislative process, historical overview of the establishment of the Navajo Nation government, history of the Council Chamber, and highlights of important policy issues and concerns of the Nation during the tour.

The students were greeted by Speaker LoRenzo Bates (Nenahnezad, Newcomb, San Juan, Tiis Tsoh Sikaad, Tse'Daa'Kaan, Upper Fruitland), Council Delegate Otto Tso (Tó Nanees Dizi), Council Delegate Jonathan Hale (Oak Springs, St. Michaels), Council Delegate Walter Phelps (Cameron, Coalmine Canyon, Leupp, Tolani Lake, Tsidi To ii) and Council Delegate Leonard H. Pete (Chinle).

"We need to motivate our children to be involved in many policy decisions. They are never too young to learn about issues within the Nation because one day, they will be the decision makers. Learning the Navajo culture and language will assist the students to think critically at an early age. We also need to continue to encourage them to stay in school," stated Delegate Hale.

The students thanked the Council by saying, "Ahee'héé," for allowing the opportunity to gain insight into the Legislative Branch.

"We welcome our Navajo children to get involved with our government. Our children are intelligent and creative. I will continue to support their future endeavors," added Delegate Yazzie.

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