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## President Shelly Signs MOA with Central Consolidated To Provide Best Education

**WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.** - President Ben Shelly signed a Memorandum of Agreement with Central Consolidated School District on behalf of the Department of Diné Education in which a collaborative effort was made to ensure that all students succeed and are provided the best educational opportunities.

“This document recognizes the Nation’s right to self-determination through education standards designed for Navajo students which stress the importance of our Diné culture,” President Shelly stated at the March 8th signing ceremony.

The Navajo Sovereignty in Education Act of 2005 gives the Navajo Nation the inherent right and authority to exercise the responsibility of quality education through assuring all educational law and policy are followed by all schools serving the Nation which includes public schools.

The MOA focuses the Nation’s efforts through the Department of Diné Education in developing and implementing Navajo language, culture, history, character, and government standards as well as holding CCSD accountable of ineffective implementation.

“Our children, our students need to learn and grow in their Navajo language, culture and history. They are our future leaders of tomorrow. They will lead this government. If the Nation does not hold schools accountable then we are letting our future slip away” President Shelly stated.



Central Consolidated School District Matthew Tso (left) watches as CCSD Superintendent Don Levinski (center) and Navajo President Ben Shelly (left center) sign the Memorandum of Agreement.

Parental involvement and leadership will be sought through input through this agreement. Also emphasized is community leadership and support to educate students of the community.

Navajo culture awareness and sensitivity programs to understanding and respect the Navajo language, culture, history, character, and government is included for non-Navajo personnel.

“This is a good step for Central Consolidated Schools. I want to see more accountability and partnership in our children’s education in all the schools on and near the Navajo Nation” President Shelly stated.

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