

VP Lizer visits Rehoboth Christian School

Written by gallupsun
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REHOBOTH, N.M. – Navajo Nation Vice President Myron Lizer was invited to Nikki VanSlooten's sixth-grade class lecture to discuss the importance of tribal sovereignty, growth, and development at Rehoboth Christian School, located east of Gallup, N.M Jan. 30.

Lizer discussed the significance of the "Long Walk" and the Navajo Treaty of 1868. In 1864, the Navajo people were forcefully removed from their homelands and forced to walk 300 miles to Bosque Redondo, N.M. The signing of the Treaty of 1868 allowed the Navajo people to return to their



homelands and establish a government-to-government relationship with the U.S. government.

"Sovereignty is a powerful privilege for the Navajo Nation. Our people have endured hardships to protect and secure our sovereignty for over 150 years. We must continue to protect our lands and our people and work closely with the federal government to ensure that they recognize and fulfill all trust responsibilities," Lizer said.

He added that in order for a leader to lead, guide, and protect their people, they must live in good faith. Being a leader by good faith helps to build good relations with people, communities, and other nations. It promotes unity and strength to overcome any challenges.

After Lizer's presentation, the class of 20 had the opportunity to ask questions and share their thoughts and ideas on matters including the recent federal government shutdown, the responsibilities and duties of the president and Vice President, and how the Navajo Nation could possibly establish an Olympic team.

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"I appreciated all the questions from the students today," he said. "Our children are curious and smart. They cannot wait to contribute to our society and they have plans and visions of making our Nation a better place. They are truly our future."