

HAVE WE LEARNED ANYTHING?

I think we have. I know I have. I learn something new every day.

Have I made mistakes? Absolutely. Do I take the time to learn from them? Yes. Does it always work? No.

Will I try harder? Yes.

It's been said on more than one occasion that the most significant resolution to having made a mistake is to admit that you did in fact make one. If you don't have the ability to do that, the learning process never begins.

THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Does the Executive office make mistakes? Yes. Do they admit their mistakes? No. Have they tried to learn from them? No, it doesn't appear so. Will they try harder? Most likely they won't because here again, the theory is if you don't have the ability to admit you've made a mistake, in your mind, there is nothing to correct.

There apparently were many mistakes made by the Executive Branch when the Scholarship program was created. Failure to cross all the Ts' and dot all the Is' is apparent. Had the Congress not questioned the pay out of the Scholarships, perhaps this Scholarship debacle wouldn't be facing us today, but most likely it would have reared its ugly head at some point and time.

There were clearly more mistakes made by the Executive Branch when they allowed commitments of certain amounts of dollars to be awarded to the students. Had they been as efficient and capable as they seem to think they are, the Education Department would have been informed in ample time to refrain from making such statements.

Rather than admitting these facts, the Executive Branch has laid the blame on the Education Department and on the Congress.

Because this is an ongoing characteristic of the Executive Branch; I strongly encourage all students

and parents of students to place the blame squarely on the office responsible for creating this disaster. Write your letters, e-mails and make your telephone calls to the Executive office. Send copies of your letters to the Office of Congressional Affairs and keep a copy for your personal files. Hepsi Barnett: 918-287-5555 Office of Congressional Affairs: llazelle@osagetribe.org

THE OSAGE NATION CONGRESS

Do these people make mistakes? Yes. Do they admit their mistakes? Some don't. Have they tried to learn from them? No, it doesn't appear so. Will they try harder? Same scenario as the Executive.

To be fair, we have some in Congress and two in particular who have made every effort to uphold the Oath of Office. Unfortunately, there are 6 and sometimes 7 Congress members who have catered to every whim that came from the Executive office. There are others who appear to be merely present during session and sometimes not even that. The majority of the Congress has made very little effort if any to protect the welfare and interest of the Osage people. The only protection displayed by the majority of this congress has been either to self or to the Chief and thereby self.

Do they recognize this? Probably not because it is a mistake and if they don't have the ability to admit they have made one, there is nothing to recognize.

So what this boils down to is this: We have two Congress members who understand and appreciate that they work for and represent the will of the people. We have 6 who at their own will work for the Chief and we have 4 who are present.

This has no characteristic of a strong Congress which is why we're in the shape we're in today. Had we had a strong Congress who truly had the people and the tribe's best interest at heart, we most likely would have been millions of dollars ahead and had approximately 750 college students enjoying their college experience as promised.

Had this Congress been strong and shown true leadership as well as ability, many of the issues

facing this new government would have been resolved between 2006 and 2009.

Had this Congress been strong, Jim Gray would have been impeached by now because they would have displayed the ability to understand that this would be in the best interest of the tribe. They would have passed legislation that would bring about a process to carry out such an action.

Had this Congress been strong, legislation to bring about staunch requirements with regard to accountability and responsibility would have been created and passed.

Had this Congress been strong, we would not have faced the outrageous displays of irresponsibility and tyranny that we have and still to this day experience.

WHAT CAN BE DONE NOW?

Nothing. Nothing today or tomorrow can be done. We will continue to have an out of control Executive Branch and a weak Congress until the election in June 2010 and maybe even after that.

Unless we continue to make every effort (and then some) to get the Osage public informed, we could very well end up with the same people in office as we have today.

STUDENTS & PARENTS

I know you're at a loss. I see Osage students quite a bit on campus as I am a student as well. The only advice I can give is to write letters and make telephone calls to the Executive Branch. The Chief of Staff, Hepsi Barnett, is clearly the person in charge of this mid-stream change in disbursement.

Contact information for the Executive office can be found:

<http://www.osagetribe.com/executive/contact.aspx>

Persuade them to understand that they made mistakes, we all do, but to continue over and over to make one mistake larger and larger is not conducive to good moral leadership.

Let them know that you expect your tribe to follow through on the promise of awarding you the money and that you hardly think you should be penalized for the tribe's errors.

Keep in mind that the next election will be the first week in June 2010. Protect your place in this world and plan to vote. All students looking forward to college as promised will most definitely have an interest in the Osage Political scene this time around!

Be informed voters and send your family members, friends and college pals to: www.jenny2010.com

Until next time, be safe and keep those chins up!

Jenny Miller
Candidate 2010
918-260-5712

Now is the time for all good Osages to come to the aid of their tribe.



**SEND
LETTERS!**