



# Havasupai Elementary School Board

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President: Dinolene Kaska Vice President: Tammy Grounds

Members: Starlivia Kaska, Javarya Wescogame

Alternate: Emanuel Manakaja

## MINUTES

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### SCHOOL BOARD SPECIAL MEETING

DATE: 5-19-26 5pm

#### WELCOME

**CALL TO ORDER 5:16pm by President Kaska**

**ROLL CALL Present:, S. Kaska, E. Manakaja, D. Kaska – quorum established**

#### ADOPTION OF AGENDA

**-Motion to adopt agenda by S. Kaska. 2<sup>nd</sup> by E. Manakaja**

#### AGENDA

**Principal's Report – see below – read by Dr. Winder**

**Facilitator Report – Dr. Sandoval**

**Comment from E. Manakaja to include others in speakers series to include someone like himself without a college degree who has contributed to the Havasupai tribe.**

**Compliance Report – see below – read by Dr. Winder**

**Comment from S. Kaska to include non-compliant items on monthly reports.**

**Open floor**

**Comment from teacher K. Nichols thanking school board for suggestions to have speakers from all areas and careers.**

**Comment from teacher C. Bravo thanking school board for opportunity to work at Havasupai ES.**

**Motion at 5:44 by S. Kaska to go into executive session**

**Meeting adjourned at 6:33pm.**



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
Bureau of Indian Education  
Havasupai Elementary School  
P.O. Box 40  
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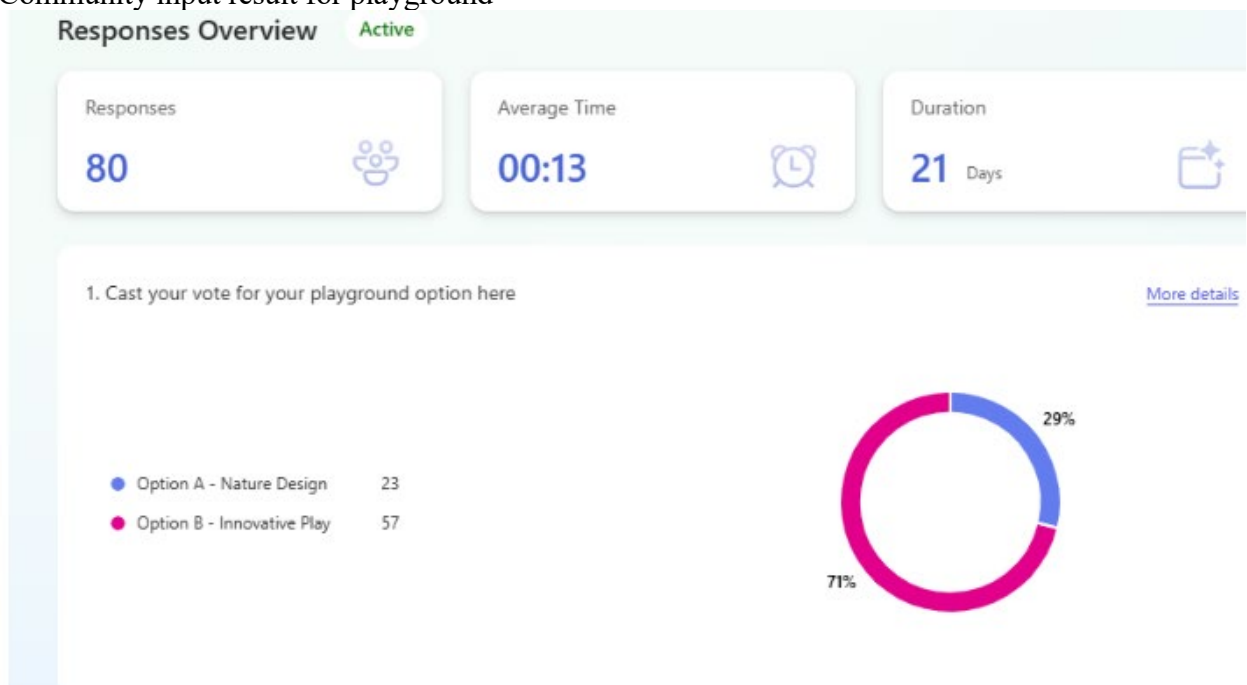


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Principal's Report May 2026.

Highlights:

- Current total enrollment – 62 students.
- Genius Time – last 30 minutes of each day, students rotate through classes – Mindfulness, Art, PE, STEAM, Leadership, Library, Nutrition, Health, Careers.
- Weekly newsletter continues.
- The Public Trust partnered with BIE will initiate Phase 1 of playground rebuilt in June 2026. We are finding alternate ways to raise funds **without** a public fundraising event.
- Community input result for playground



- Afternoon clubs ongoing.
- All teachers offer tutoring to students after school. Please contact me or the teacher if you would like your child to receive extra help.
- Summer School – Focus on Performing Arts with ASU volunteers “Native American Theater Project” June 16-18, June 22-25, 2026.
- Planning meeting for graduation May 15, 2026 @ 4pm report

Upcoming:

- School Board Meeting May 19, 2026

<https://wested.zoom.us/j/92224243498>  
*Meeting ID: 922 2424 3498*



## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Education  
1849 C Street NW, MIB-3610  
Washington, DC 20240

### Havasupai Elementary School Compliance Update Report

**Date:** May 19, 2026

**Prepared for:** HES School Board

#### Annual Report Update

- Onsite data collection and classroom observations were conducted May 13–14 to verify corrective action implementation and gather evidence for the Annual Report.
- All compliance areas are being reviewed.
- The **Annual Report will be shared with the Tribal Council by June 15 and published on the HES Settlement website by July 6, 2026.**

#### Site Visit Overview

During the May 13–14 onsite visit, Havasupai Elementary showed progress across instructional, cultural, and other compliance areas. Teachers demonstrated strengthened implementation of curriculum, increased use of kinesthetic and hands-on learning strategies, and continued improvement in positive student engagement. The most significant advancement observed this month was the **intentional and consistent integration of Native culture into instruction**, reflected through stories, vocabulary, connections to local history, and culturally grounded classroom discussions.

#### Highlights From May Site Visit

##### 1. Strengthened Integration of Native Culture in Instruction

The most significant improvement observed this month was the increased presence of Native cultural content across classrooms. Teachers consistently embedded cultural references, stories, vocabulary, and themes into instruction.

Students engaged with:

- Indigenous stories and legends as part of literacy learning
- Making connections to Local tribal histories
- Native vocabulary and Havasupai language incorporated into reading and language activities
- Discussions about identity, storytelling traditions, and intergenerational knowledge
- Math problems using relatable content such as beading

This reflects a meaningful step toward culturally sustaining instruction aligned with Havasupai community values.

##### 2. Increased Engagement Through Hands-On and Kinesthetic Learning

Across grade levels, teachers used manipulatives, movement-based activities, matching games, literacy motions, and station work to support differentiated learning and broaden

student access to content. Students demonstrated strong engagement and success with these approaches.

**3. Positive Classroom Climate and Strong Teacher-Student Interactions**

Observations noted effective use of positive redirection, relationship-based management, student choice, and affirming language. Students were cooperative, responsive, and actively participating in discussions and instructional routines.

**4. Cross-Content Connections and Higher-Level Thinking**

Teachers made meaningful connections across disciplines, linking literacy to science, culture, social studies, and prior lessons. Students were prompted to compare information, analyze themes, share personal reflections, and apply vocabulary in context.


**Conclusion**

Havasupai Elementary School continues to show steady progress toward full compliance and instructional improvement. The strong emphasis on culturally sustaining teaching practices, positive learning environments, and hands-on engagement supports both academic growth and cultural pride. Preparation for the Annual Report remains on schedule, with all required components actively in progress.

**Contact Information**

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 [Compliance Documents Website](#)