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News from Senator

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DOLE APPLAUDS EDUCATION GRANT FOR KICKAPOO NATION SCHOOL

WASHINGTON -- Kansas Sen. Bob Dole today announced that the Kickapoo Nation School in Powhattan will receive a \$143,308 federal grant for their bilingual education program.

"This is an innovative program that stresses the integrity of the native culture, and allows the children to improve their English reading and writing skills," Dole said.

"The instructors use the Kickapoo language and culture to teach the children how to read and write. The traditional 'Dick and Jane' characters in story books become tribal members when taught to the children. This technique allows the native children to learn about their unique cultural history, and the English language as well."

Also Sen. Dole said that Kickapoo Nation School has received two additional federal grants from the U.S. Department of Education. One, for \$96,205, establishes a Montessori program for the kindergarten through sixth grades. The second grant, for \$76,000 is for an open classroom program.

The Montessori program is designed to improve a child's social skills. The open classroom program was adopted because it allows for a sense of community spirit and sharing - values important to the Kickapoo culture.

"With the addition of the Montessori and open classroom grants, Kickapoo Nation School will continue to be a great asset to the Kickapoo people. These programs will not only enable native children to pursue their future dreams, but they will also help to preserve their past," Dole added.