

January 24, 1945

WHERE WILL POSTON CHILDREN ATTEND
SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 1945?

One question which the parents of all Poston children must answer for themselves is, "Where will my children attend school in September 1945?" The Poston Schools will not re-open after the completion of the present school year.

Following are the facts of the Poston school situation:

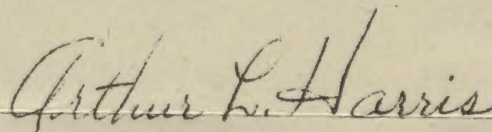
1. Classes in the kindergarten, elementary, and secondary grades will continue until the end of the present school year. All work will be completed by June 4, 1945.
2. Classes for nursery school children will continue so long as we have enough evacuee teachers to teach them, but under no circumstances will they be in session after August 31, 1945.
3. If it is necessary to have a summer session for the completion of the work of the school year by students who have fallen behind, we shall try to provide enough teachers for such a session. Under no circumstances shall the summer session continue after August 31, 1945.
4. The Arizona State High School Visitor inspected the Poston II and the Poston I Secondary Schools on Saturday, January 20th. The results of his inspection indicate that the credits of all Poston students which have been satisfactorily completed will be fully accredited by the State of Arizona for transfer to the high schools of any state in the United States.
5. In August 1945, the school records for all Poston school children will be sent to Washington, D. C. After that time, it will be necessary to write to Washington to get copies of your children's school records so the children can enter a public or a private school outside of Poston.
6. As soon as possible after June 4, 1945, all school furniture, equipment, books, and supplies will be placed in warehouses and turned over to the Department of the Interior for disposal.
7. After August 31, 1945, there will be no money with which to pay the salaries of teachers or to buy school supplies. Most of the appointed teachers in the Poston Schools probably will leave Poston in June or July of this year.
8. The programs of the Poston Schools are similar to those of most public schools. It should be possible for students to transfer to schools outside of Poston during the school year without loss of time or credit. Reports from students who have transferred recently to other schools indicate that in most subjects, the students from Poston are ahead of students in other schools. All schools throughout the country have many transfers in and out during the school year due to the moving of families from one war industry plant to another. It is not necessary, for the sake of your children, to remain in Poston until the school year is completed.

Every resource which this country can spare from the war effort is being offered to the families of the relocation centers to guarantee

- (a) their return to homes where family life can be carried on again, in a community which will welcome them as neighbors and community members.
- (b) safety of persons and property.
- (c) freedom from want through the employment of able bodied individuals in work and at wages which are comparable to the work and wages of all such individuals in the country,--- and through financial assistance to those who can no longer be self-supporting.
- (d) the self-respect which can be felt only by free people who live by the products of their own efforts, -- who are doing their share in the work of the community and of the nation.

- (e) that their children shall grow up with pride in their parents, respect for their parents, confidence in themselves, and the ability to become self-respecting, self-supporting, worthy citizens of the country of which they are a part.
- (f) that people of Japanese ancestry shall be saved from the effects of segregation from the rest of the world, from the effects of living on the charity of those who are doing the world's work, --- so they may regain those qualities of industry, independence, and obedience to laws by which they were known before they became dependents of the taxpayers of America.

We who have been working in the Poston schools are concerned over the welfare of the children of Poston. We have watched with anxiety the bad effects of life in the relocation center upon their work habits, their behavior, their respect for property, their social attitudes, and their knowledge of the world outside of Poston. We feel that parents must sacrifice the false sense of security which they have developed in the center both for their own welfare and for the welfare of their children. We believe sincerely that the sooner all people leave the center, the more secure will be their future, regardless of present desires which have their basis in fear instead of courage and self confidence. For these reasons we welcome the closing of the schools, the closing of the centers, and the return of our young people to the schools of American communities where they belong.



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