



# CRAZY HORSE SCHOOL

Tasunke Witko Owayawa

P.O. Box 260

245 Crazy Horse School Drive

Wanblee, South Dakota 57577

PHONE: (605) 462-6834 FAX: (605) 462-6510



---

July 1, 2021

Peter Paul Montgomery Buttigieg, Secretary  
Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave S.E.  
Washington, DC 20590


Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I write from the small but strong community of Wanblee, South Dakota, where I serve as the superintendent of the Crazy Horse School, a regional source of education and community. My letter joins the voices of the Oglala Sioux Tribe and community members who wish to see you approve the 2021 RAISE Planning Grant application of our Tribe.

The grant would lay the groundwork for the reconstruction of BIA 2 between Kyle, South Dakota and South Dakota Highway 44. The route is currently treacherous and worsens in bad weather and winter months. Despite the road not meeting current highway safety standards our buses travel it on average 3 times each school day depending on after school activities. Even though the road is narrow and there are not good locations to stop, bus drivers make stops along the highway and many of these locations have bad sight distance.

This 20-mile stretch of road includes several dangerous intersections, truck entry points, and a narrow bridge... all of which pose unique difficulties for school bus drivers in the middle of a South Dakota winter. Improving this road would create a reliable route for students and greatly improve public safety. Please accept this letter of support and give the public safety benefits of this project for our students serious consideration.

Thank You,

  
Silas Blaine, Superintendent  
Crazy Horse School