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**CCMS LEGO Robotics Team Makes Presentation to Miko Denson**

Although it started as an entry in the Choctaw Tribal Schools' First LEGO League Tournament in November 2009, the outstanding presentation made by the Choctaw Central Middle School LEGO Robotics Team has gone beyond the competition and into the Choctaw Tribal halls of power.

On Friday, January 22, 2010, members of the CCMS LEGO Robotics Team made a ten-minute presentation to Miko Beasley Denson. In the presentation, the students cited a need for signs to indicate a safe school zone and safe pedestrian crossing at the intersection of Highway 16 and Oswald Road in the Pearl River Community. The intersection is located on a busy four-lane highway and is used by pedestrians and motorists to get to school, daycare centers, work, and the Choctaw Health Center. Their solution is to install a pedestrian crossing signal, install signs to indicate a safe school zone and safe pedestrian crossing, and install overhead pedestrian crossing.

The students had previously presented their findings to two representatives from the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) and to the Tribal Education Committee. Officials from MDOT informed the students that a letter of request from the Tribal Miko's Office needed to be submitted to MDOT.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Miko Denson congratulated the students on their presentation and commended the students on discovering a problem that had been overlooked for a long time. He indicated that he would submit the request for signs to MDOT, and he hoped that a resolution would be realized within six months.

After his remarks, Miko Denson invited the students to come take a look at his office in the Tribal Office Building. He also presented them with MBCI jackets and other memorabilia.

The members of the CCMS LEGO Robotics Team are: Simon Isaac, DeMarquis Wilson, Malcolm York, Allandra York, Christain Deon, Jada Sockey, and Ozzie Willis. They will compete in the Mississippi State First LEGO League Championship on Saturday, January 30, 2010, at the Jackson County Campus of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in Gautier, MS.

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*The Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, under the esteemed leadership of Miko Beasley Denson, has an enrolled membership of over 10,000 and is the only federally recognized tribe in the State of Mississippi. Headquartered in the Pearl River community, near Philadelphia, Mississippi, the Tribe has emerged as a leader in economic development. The Tribe provides a range of governmental services for its members including schools, a hospital, medical clinics, police and fire protection, courts, an elderly center, among many others.*