

Kent School District
Kent, Washington

Resolution No. 1506

A RESOLUTION relating to Indigenous Peoples' Day; declaring the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples' Day in the Kent School District, encouraging other institutions to recognize the day, and reaffirming the school district's commitment to promote the well-being and growth of Kent's American Indian and Indigenous community. This resolution utilizes the Kent School District's Blueprint: Leaning Forward Together 2016-2021 Plan, underlining Strategic Goal Number Two to engage parents, students, staff, and community in two-way communications focused on equity and excellence.

WHEREAS, the Kent School District recognizes that the Indigenous Peoples of the lands that would later become known as the Americas have occupied these lands since time immemorial.

WHEREAS, the Kent School District recognizes the fact that Kent is built upon the homelands and villages of the indigenous peoples of this region, without whom the building of the Kent School District would not have been possible.

WHEREAS, the Kent School District values the many contributions made to our community through indigenous peoples' knowledge, labor, technology, science, philosophy, arts, and the deep cultural contribution that has substantially shaped the character of the Kent School District.

WHEREAS, the Kent School District has a responsibility to oppose the systematic racism towards indigenous people in the United States, which perpetuates high rates of poverty and income inequality, exacerbating disproportionate health, education, and social crises.

WHEREAS, the Kent School District promotes the closing of the equity gap for indigenous peoples through policies and practices that reflect the experiences of indigenous peoples, ensure greater access and opportunity, and honor our nation's indigenous roots, history, and contributions.

WHEREAS, Indigenous Peoples' Day was first proposed in 1977 by a delegation of Native Nations to the United Nations sponsored International Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas.

WHEREAS, in 2011 the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, representing 59 Tribes from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Northern California, Western Montana, and some Alaskan Tribes passed resolution #11-57 to "Support to Change Columbus Day (2nd Monday of October) to Indigenous Peoples' Day."

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Kent School District collectively supports changing the 2nd Monday of October from Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day in the Kent School District and urges the community to join in this observance.

ADOPTED this 14th day of December 2016.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



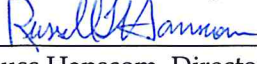
Karen DeBruler, President



Maya Vengadasalam, Vice President



Agda Burchard, Legislative Representative



Russ Hanscom, Director

Debbie Straus, Director

ATTEST:


Calvin J. Watts, Superintendent
Secretary of the Board