

**DAVID DOUGLAS SCHOOL DISTRICT PROCLAMATION:
PROCLAIMING THE MONTHLONG CELEBRATION OF
NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH
IN NOVEMBER**

WHEREAS, Native American Indians are descendants of the original, indigenous inhabitants of what is now the United States, the first Americans; and

WHEREAS, the Native Americans were the first stewards of our environment, contribute to the unique identity of the Pacific Northwest, represented the early voices for the values that define our Nation; and

WHEREAS, Native American Indians maintain vibrant cultural heritage, rich traditions and hold a deeply rooted sense of community; and

WHEREAS, there are 76 Native American Indian/Alaskan Native students representing 60 tribes/bands from across the nation enrolled as students in the David Douglas School District (“District”); and there are 903 students who self-identify as ethnically and/or racially Native American/Alaskan Native students; and

WHEREAS, we cannot ignore nor erase the consequences of our country’s long and unfortunate history of violence, discrimination, and deprivation of the Native Americans –but we can commit to working together for a bright future; and

WHEREAS, the District recently created a Native American Parent Advisory Group to further its efforts of forming strong relationships in a culturally appropriate way and to provide feedback and guidance to district leaders on improving outcomes and providing opportunities for Native American youth in the District; and

WHEREAS, the District has an adopted equity policy that states our commitment to closing the achievement gap for Indigenous Peoples and creating an educational environment where all students can benefit equally from the educational programs offered; and

WHEREAS, the District is working towards eliminating the racial predictability and disproportionality on all aspects of education and has recently established a Racial Equity Committee; and

WHEREAS, the District earlier this year proclaimed every second Monday of October to be Indigenous Peoples’ Day as an opportunity to reflect upon the ongoing struggles of Indigenous people of this land, to celebrate the thriving cultures and values of the Indigenous Peoples of our region, and to stand in solidarity with Indigenous peoples elsewhere; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Andrea Valderrama, Chair of the David Douglas School Board of Directors, do hereby proclaim the monthlong celebration of

NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE

in the David Douglas School District to occur in the month of November.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the David Douglas School Board of Directors strongly encourages our staff and community to observe, recognize, and celebrate the culture, heritage, and contributions of Native Americans to our country, our state, our cities, and our schools.

Signed:



Chair, David Douglas School District Board of Directors

Date: 11/12/20
