



RESOLUTION #2023-2024-009

**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE CELEBRATION OF
NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH
IN THE REYNOLDS SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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

WHEREAS, Multnomah County encompasses the traditional ancestral homelands of the Bands of the Chinook, Multnomah, Clackamas, Tualatin, Molalla, Kalapuya, Wasco, Cowlitz, and Kathlamet tribes. Since time immemorial, these tribes established their communities in a resource rich area where they traded and fished along the rivers and harvested those natural resources that fed their families and sustained their communities. We recognize the forced sacrifices of these tribes and Indigenous people;

WHEREAS, in the 1950s, under Federal Relocation Policy, a large segment of the Native population in the United States of America was forced to relocate to several major cities of which Portland was one. This has added to the diversity of tribal representation in the region;

WHEREAS, Native Americans, people whose history is rich with those who positively influence and enrich our nation, our society, our region, our state, and our schools through their entrepreneurship, commitment to community service, deep value of justice and liberty, and social and cultural life;

WHEREAS, on August 3, 1990, President of the United States George H. W. Bush declared the month of November as National American Indian Heritage Month, thereafter commonly referred to as Native American Heritage Month;

WHEREAS, Native Americans have made profound contributions and continue to make advances in education, medicine, art, culture, and public service and have been a consistent and vital influence in our nation's growth and prosperity;

WHEREAS, Multnomah County's Native American Community is diverse and growing with the population estimated to be nearly 70,000;

WHEREAS, understanding Native history and contemporary life is an important part of celebrating Native American Heritage Month;

WHEREAS, the Reynolds School District has a core belief in Equity that states our commitment to affirmatively overcome the educational barriers that have resulted in a persistent, unacceptable achievement gap for Black, Indigenous, and students of color and to give each student the opportunity and support to meet their highest potential;

WHEREAS, closing opportunity gaps while raising achievement for all students is the top priority

of the Board of Education, the Superintendent and all district staff;

WHEREAS, the Reynolds School District Board of Education believes each and every student is to be celebrated and appreciated for the distinct and vibrant contributions made by sharing cultures, language, ideas, beliefs, and values within a school community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED The Reynolds School District Board of Education hereby promotes November 1 through November 30, 2023 as Native American Heritage Month and encourages staff, students, and community members to observe, recognize, and celebrate the culture, heritage, and economic contributions of Native Americans to Oregon and the United States through culturally relevant activities, and to learn about Native history from Native voices to understand the experiences that have shaped the United States.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The Superintendent or his designee shall work with all schools in the district to recognize Native American Heritage Month through culturally relevant lessons and activities and increased visibility of our Native American community within our school communities.

Adopted this 25th day of October 2023.

Signed:

Signed:



Chair, RSD District Board of Directors

Attest:



Superintendent/Clerk