



Indigenous Peoples' Day

A Resolution by the Governing Board of the Flagstaff Unified School District affirming the declaration by the City of Flagstaff of the Second Monday of October as Indigenous Peoples' Day.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of Flagstaff recognizes that it is built on lands known and loved and inhabited by people since time immemorial who are indigenous to the region;

WHEREAS, as a result of colonialism and economic, political, and educational injustices, Indigenous people in the region have faced trauma and formidable challenges to health and well-being across generations.

WHEREAS, the City of Flagstaff was built and is still energized and maintained and shaped today with Indigenous peoples' knowledge, labor, technology, science, philosophy, arts, and commerce;

WHEREAS, the Flagstaff Unified School District and City of Flagstaff understand that government entities, organizations, and public institutions have a responsibility to enact policies to combat racism and to build justice and equity for Indigenous people and all people who suffer from the effects of prejudice and discrimination;

WHEREAS, the observance of Columbus Day is a celebration of genocide against Indigenous peoples;

WHEREAS, the Mission of the Flagstaff Unified School District seeks to ensure all students, regardless of external factors, have access to the champions and enriching experiences essential to promote academic and personal development and fosters success in college, career, citizenship, and life;

WHEREAS, We mourn the suffering and loss of life and recognize that COVID has exacerbated the already disproportionate health, educational and economic disparities facing Indigenous Peoples;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

- A. That in pursuit of an equitably-shared responsibility to promote knowledge about Indigenous Peoples, unify communities, combat prejudice, and eliminate discrimination against Indigenous Peoples, the Flagstaff Unified School District does hereby resolve the second Monday of October each year to be Indigenous Peoples' Day; and
- B. Flagstaff Unified School District formally encourages all preschools, K-12 schools, parent and educational organizations to recognize and publicize Indigenous Peoples' Day, and will further support school district events to promote understanding and engagement with the Indigenous Peoples, traditions, cultures, resilience, and contributions; and

- C. The Governing Board and Superintendent will strongly consider the recommendations of the Anti-Racism and Anti-Bias Task force in the areas of Staff Diversity, Student Behavior and Social Emotional Learning, Curriculum, and Professional Development in order to elevate the voice of Indigenous Peoples and increase the sense of belonging for our Indigenous students; and
- D. The Flagstaff Unified School District will continue to develop and implement an outreach program to regularly inform Indigenous Peoples of the school district, as well as the public, of its progress in upholding the commitments made in this Resolution; and
- E. Flagstaff Unified School District recognizes that this is not yet a celebration of great accomplishments; it is one of many steps toward building a solid, respectful, and reciprocal relationship with Indigenous Peoples, communities, and nations.

PASSED AND APPROVED: October 13, 2020

Anne Dunno, President
Flagstaff Unified School District Governing Board

Michael Penca, Superintendent
Flagstaff Unified School District

