



Recognition of Native American Heritage Month Resolution No. 3295

Board Meeting
November 4, 2022
Agenda Item No. 8.2

Presented by: Liam McGurk, Student Board Member

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Native American Heritage Month

- National Native American Heritage Month is an opportunity to consider and recognize the contributions of Native Americans to the history of the United States;
- Native Americans are the original, Indigenous people of what is now the United States of America;
- Native Americans maintain vibrant cultures and traditions, hold a deeply rooted sense of community and have made and continue to make distinct and important contributions to the United States and the rest of the world in many fields, including the fields of agriculture, medicine, music, language, and art.
- California has the highest Native American population in the country, it is home to 109 federally recognized tribes, with approximately 81 groups seeking recognition;

- Over one-half of the state's Native American population is composed of individuals (and now their descendants) who were relocated to large urban areas as part of the federal government's termination policy;
- Before the missionary, fur trapping, and gold rush era migrations, California's Native American population was estimated at about 200,000, between 1840 and 1870, the population declined to 12,000 due to disease, forced removal, and death;
- The Census Bureau estimated that, in 2020, there were more than 631,016 individuals of Native American descent in California and more than 18,637 in the county of Sacramento;
- The City of Sacramento celebrated Indigenous Peoples' day on October 10, 2022;
- The California Department of Education School Dashboard indicates that Native American students within SCUSD are more likely to be chronically absent as compared to other student groups;

- Governor Newsom approved Assembly bill 516 which excuses an absence for participating in a cultural ceremony or event;
- the Sacramento City Unified School District resides on lands of the Nisenan and Miwok people;
- SCUSD is committed to improving the academic and social-emotional outcomes for Native American students and all students in the region;
- 2021-2022 CDE Dataquest information indicates there are 27,001 Native American students in California and 213 in SCUSD, a recent pull of Infinite Campus data indicates there are 537 SCUSD American Indian students that are classified as two or more races;
- SCUSD's American Indian Education Program (AIEP) provides tutoring, cultural programs, back to school events, field trips and graduation recognitions for American Indian students enrolled in the program;
- SCUSD has committed to supporting students by providing services for self-identified American Indian students who are unable to enroll in AIEP program due to lack of documentation;

Q & A