

**SEATTLE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
BOARD RESOLUTION**

RESOLUTION 2016/17-1

A RESOLUTION of the Board of Directors of Seattle School District No. 1, King County, Seattle, Washington, to memorialize our support of the treaty rights and benefits of the Duwamish Nation as the original people of our area and increasing the emphasis on Native education within our schools.

WHEREAS, the City of Seattle is named for the Chief of the Duwamish Nation, and

WHEREAS, the Duwamish Nation has been supportive of public education in Seattle, and

WHEREAS, the Duwamish Nation has long sought, but been wrongly denied formal recognition by the federal government, and the Duwamish Tribe continues to seek such recognition, and

WHEREAS, the Duwamish Nation's petition for federal status was approved during the end of the Clinton administration, but was overturned by the George W. Bush administration, citing that the Duwamish did not meet two of the criteria for federal status, and

WHEREAS, the people known today as the Duwamish Nation are the **dx^wdəwʔábš**, "The People of the Inside." They are the people of Chief Seattle. They are the First People of the City of Seattle, Washington. They have never left their ancestral homeland and therefore deserve appropriate federal recognition, and

WHEREAS, House Bill No. 1495, with the goal of educating citizens of our state about the tribal history, culture, treaty rights, contemporary tribal and state government institutions and relations, and the contributions of American Indians and Alaska Natives to the state, passed both the House of Representatives and Senate in April 2005 and was codified into law as RCW 28A.300.105, and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the Seattle School District, as part of our race and equity initiative, acknowledge this history of our community and many of our students and staff by supporting the Duwamish Nation in exercising treaty rights and benefits and to also make additional efforts to ensure supportive environments for Native education in our schools by providing an additional emphasis on Native education.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that it is the opinion of the Board of Directors of Seattle School District No. 1 that the people of the Duwamish Nation are the original people of this area and deserve treaty rights and benefits; and therefore be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of Seattle School District No. 1 urges prompt action by the U.S. President and Secretary of the U.S. Department of Interior to confer appropriate treaty rights and benefits on the Duwamish Nation; and therefore be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of Seattle School District No. 1 urges other local public officials to join with the Seattle School District in acknowledging the treaty rights and benefits of the Duwamish Nation, to include the Mayor of Seattle; the Seattle City Council; the Executive of King County; the King County Council; the Governor of Washington State; members of the Washington State House of Representatives; members of the Washington State Senate; U.S. Senators of Washington State; and U.S. Representatives of Washington State; and therefore be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of Seattle School District No. 1 urges other public school boards to join the Seattle School District in memorializing their support of the treaty rights and benefits of the original people of their area; and therefore be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of Seattle School District No. 1 requests the Superintendent advise the Board on improvements that could be made to Native education within our schools during the annual report to the Board in December of each year, and at Board Work Sessions as needed.


ADOPTED this 12th day of October, 2016


Betty Patu, President


Sue Peters, Vice-President



Stephan Blanford, Member

Richard Burke, Member


Jill Geary, Member


Leslie Harris, Member


Scott Pinkham, Member

ATTEST: 
Dr. Larry Nyland, Superintendent
Secretary, Board of Directors
Seattle School District No. 1
King County, WA