

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #86 (2009-2010)

October 19, 2009

TO: SCHOOL BOARD
FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
SUBJECT: RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ALASKA NATIVE/ AMERICAN
INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH

ASD Goal: *Education in the highly diverse ASD will be accessible, culturally responsive, supportive of students, and safe.*

RECOMMENDATION:

The Administration recommends the Anchorage School Board, recognizing Alaska Native culture provides significant contribution to our community; adopt the attached resolution in support of November 2009 being Alaska Native/American Indian Heritage Month.

PERTINENT FACTS:

The rich cultures and traditions practiced by America's original people will be celebrated in November as Alaska Native/American Indian Heritage Month.

More than 15 percent of Alaska's population is Alaska Native or American Indian, the single largest minority population in the state. Roughly 10 percent of people living within the Municipality of Anchorage are Alaska Native or American Indian, making Anchorage the largest "village" in the state. Last year, nine percent of district students identified themselves as Alaska Native or American Indian, one of the largest minority populations in the district.

The "Share the Spirit" celebration in November includes many events to educate and inform people of the diverse Alaska Native groups and their contributions to our society. Guest speakers, artists and elders will be visiting ASD schools throughout the month to increase cultural awareness in our classrooms.

CC/HS/RD

Prepared by: Ronnie Dent, Communications Specialist

Approved by: Heather Sawyer, Executive Director, Communications

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD
ASDR 2009-2010-07

**A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 2009 AS ALASKA
NATIVE/AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH IN THE ANCHORAGE
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, celebrating the Alaska Native and American Indian cultures and “Sharing the Spirit” of their traditions and contributions benefits Anchorage School District students, their families and employees; and

WHEREAS, the goal of Alaska Native and American Indian Month is to educate and inform others of the diverse Alaska Native and American Indian groups, their ways of life and historical importance to our society; and

WHEREAS, it is the goal of the Anchorage School District to support cultural awareness, education and on-going initiatives to increase cultural understanding in our community; and

WHEREAS, since 2001, volunteers have planned annual activities to commemorate the month of November as Alaska Native and American Indian Month;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Anchorage School Board hereby proclaims November 2009 as Alaska Native/American Indian Heritage Month in the Anchorage School District, and urges all students, employees and families to join in the festivities.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage School Board this 19th day of October, 2009.

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD

John Steiner, President

Jeff Friedman
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Crystal Kennedy

Jeannie Mackie
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