

Resolution Commemorating Indigenous Peoples' Day

WHEREAS, the Eau Claire Area School District promotes the well-being and intellectual growth of every student in its jurisdiction, including that of sovereign indigenous peoples; and

WHEREAS, the School Board recognizes that indigenous peoples are the ones who have inhabited the American continent since time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, the School Board recognizes that the reproduction of uncritical narratives about the discovery and colonization of America continue to dehumanize indigenous peoples and devalue its cultural expressions and heritage; and

WHEREAS, the School Board acknowledges the many contributions that indigenous peoples have made to our life in community through labor, technology, environmental sustainability, philosophy, arts, and other indigenous forms of knowledge shaping in significant ways the cultural landscapes of the Chippewa Valley and the State of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the Eau Claire Area School District is committed to creating learning environments that are enriched with diversity and promote a sincere appreciation of difference; and

WHEREAS, the Eau Claire Area School District is mandated by Wisconsin State Statutes contained in Act 31 of 1989 to make efforts to reduce prejudice through the system of public education and foster an appreciation and understanding of different value systems and cultures, including intentional cross-curricular inclusion of studies related to First Nations, Hispanic, African American and Asian/Hmong students; and

WHEREAS, the Eau Claire Area School District considers that in doing so it will be laying the foundations to close the academic achievement gap that affects students of color including indigenous peoples; and

WHEREAS, the Eau Claire Area School District seeks to join the hundreds of other municipalities, school districts, and universities that recognize the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples' Day to be observed as a day in solidarity with indigenous peoples; and

WHEREAS, the Eau Claire Area School District wants to encourage students to be empowered to make positive changes that affect their fellow students and promote equity, community, and respect for all students, and as such, wishes to recognize efforts made by ECASD middle school students to raise awareness about this day of observance.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eau Claire School District shall annually observe the second Monday of October as Indigenous Peoples' Day.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all schools are encouraged to support the well-being and growth of American Indian and Indigenous students and recognize the contributions of native peoples on Indigenous Peoples' Day.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being all the members of the School Board for the Eau Claire Area School District, have executed this resolution this 9th day of October 2017.



Chris Hambuch Boyle, President



Kathryn Duax, Vice President



Aaron Harder, Treasurer



Joe Luginbill, Clerk



Eric Torres, Board Member



Charles Vue, Board Member



Lori Bica, Board Member