

August 15, 2023

APPROVED: DD:br

Board Meeting – August 15, 2023

Item VI. Consent Calendar Recommendations

D. Adoption of Board Resolution No. 3 in Recognition of Native American Day on September 22, 2023

The Superintendent recommends that the County Board take action and approve Board Resolution No. 3 and proclaim September 22, 2023 as Native American Day, and to encourage all educators and the community to recognize and celebrate Native American Day with appropriate activities and to educate students about California tribes.

Native American Day, is observed annually and recognized in California. The day celebrates the cultures and contributions of the many Native American tribes. (California Education Code Section 37220.7)

Board Resolution No. 3 follows on the next page.

**Next Steps:**

- LACOE will offer the following professional development opportunities regarding the inclusion of Native American Studies in Ethnic Studies and American history courses:
  - Ethnic Studies Three-Day Institute, October 17-19, 2023 at the Los Angeles County Office of Education.
  - Native American Studies Symposium focused on the Gabrielino-Tongva peoples, April 2024.

**BOARD RESOLUTION**

**No. 3: 2023-24**

**Native American Day**

**WHEREAS** the state of California was home to many generations of Native Americans before the arrival of explorers from other parts of the world; approximately 300,000 native people lived throughout the state, making it the most diversely populated region within native North America. By 1873, only 30,000 indigenous people remained; and

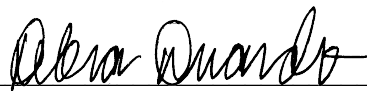
**WHEREAS** in 1998, the California Assembly passed AB 1953, which made Native American Day an official state holiday, observed annually on the fourth Friday in September. The Los Angeles County Office of Education takes pride in recognizing Native American Day on Friday, September 22, 2023; and

**WHEREAS** Los Angeles County, whose earliest settlers belonged to the Gabrielino-Tongva peoples, is home to the largest indigenous population of any U.S. city. Native American Day is an opportunity to learn more about the vibrant cultures and rich traditions of our Native American community whose histories are deeply woven into the fabric of our county; and

**WHEREAS** by observing Native American Day, we preserve their culture and empower indigenous peoples to participate more fully in their communities; LACOE supports the inclusion of land acknowledgements at school/district/county events and Native American Studies in Ethnic Studies and American history courses; and

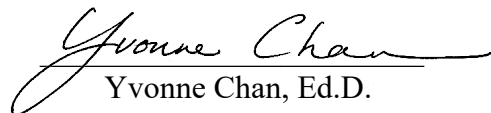
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Los Angeles County Board of Education and County Superintendent of Schools proclaim September 22, 2023 as Native American Day and encourage all educators and the community to recognize and celebrate Native American Day with appropriate activities, educate students about California tribes and integrate Native American studies into Ethnic Studies and the American history curriculum during the school year.

**ADOPTED** this 15th day of August 2023 by the Los Angeles County Board of Education in Downey, California.



Debra Duardo, M.S.W., Ed.D.

Superintendent



Yvonne Chan, Ed.D.

Board President