

August 20, 2024

APPROVED: DD:br

Board Meeting – August 20, 2024

Item VI. Consent Calendar Recommendations

C. Adoption of Board Resolution No. 4 in Recognition of Native American Day on September 27, 2024

The Superintendent recommends that the County Board take action and approve Board Resolution No. 4 and proclaim September 27, 2024 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. 4 follows on the next page.

**Next Steps:**

- LACOE will offer the promote the following events and resources to our educational partners through the History-Social Science listerv:

**Events:**

- SDCOE Native American Studies Model Curriculum (NASMC) Project Listening Circles, 4:00pm – 5:00pm, 8/6/24, 9/3/24, 10/1/24, 11/5/24, 12/3/24, Link to Register - <https://sdcoe.k12oms.org/902-228838>
- Moompetam American Indian Festival: <https://www.aquariumofpacific.org/events/info/moompetam/>
- California Native American Day Events: <https://www.nativeamericanday.org/>

**Resources:**

- California Indian Culture and Sovereignty Center (CICSC) - <https://www.csusm.edu/cicsc/index.html>
- California Indian Museum and Cultural Center - <https://cimcc.org/>
- California Indian Education for All - <https://www.caindianeducationforall.com/>
- Facing History and Ourselves - <https://www.facinghistory.org/ideas-week/18-teacher-resources-native-american-history-culture>

- 30 Ways You Can Celebrate American Indian Heritage Month - <https://www.weareteachers.com/celebrate-native-american-heritage-month/>
- Teaching Books for Schools (search Native American) - <https://school.teachingbooks.net/>

**Books for Elementary Age Students:**

- *Finding My Dance*, by Thundercloud
- *We Are Grateful: Otsalihetiga*, by Traci Sorrell
- *We Are Still Here: Native American Truths Everyone Should Know*, by Traci Sorrell
- *We Are Water Protectors*, by Carole Lindstrom and Michaela Goade

**Books for Middle and High School**

- *Code Talker: A Novel About the Navajo Marines of WWII*, by Joseph Bruchac
- *She Persisted: Maria Tallchief*, by Christine Day and Chelsea Clinton
- *The Star That Always Stays*, by Anna Rose Johnson
- *Dreaming in Indian: Contemporary Native American Voices*, by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz
- *#Not Your Princess: Voices of Native American Women*, by Mary Beth Leatherdale and Lisa Charleyboy

# BOARD RESOLUTION

No. 4: 2024-25

## Native American Day

**WHEREAS** the state of California was home to numerous generations of Native Americans long before the arrival of explorers from other regions of the world; with approximately 300,000 indigenous people residing throughout the state, making it the most diverse and populated region within native North America. Tragically, by 1873, the native population dwindled to just 30,000; 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 27, 2024; and

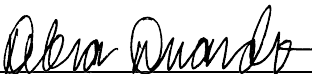
**WHEREAS** Los Angeles County, whose earliest settlers belonged to the Gabrielino-Tongva peoples, is home to the largest indigenous population of any U.S. city. Native American Day is an opportunity to learn more about the vibrant cultures and rich traditions of our Native American community whose histories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

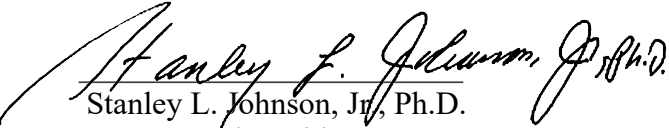
**WHEREAS** tribal America has contributed values and ideas that have become deeply ingrained in the American spirit: the understanding that humans can thrive and prosper without harming the natural environment; the recognition that people from different backgrounds, cultures, religions, and traditions can unite to build a great nation; and the belief that diversity can be a source of strength rather than division; and

**WHEREAS** by observing Native American Day, we honor and preserve indigenous cultures while empowering Native peoples to fully participate in their communities; the Los Angeles County Office of Education supports the inclusion of land acknowledgments at school, district, and county events, as well as the integration of Native American Studies into Ethnic Studies and American history courses;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Los Angeles County Board of Education and County Superintendent of Schools proclaim September 27, 2024 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 20th day of August 2024 by the Los Angeles County Board of Education in Downey, California.

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

  
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Stanley L. Johnson, Jr., Ph.D.  
Board President