LOS ANGELES COUNTY
OFFICE OF EDUCATION
October 20, 2026
APPROVED: DD:cj

Item VI. Consent Calendar Recommendations

C. Adoption of Board Resolution No. 26 to Recognize November 2026 as National Native American Heritage Month

The Superintendent recommends that the County Board take action and approve Board Resolution No. 26 and hereby encourages public officials, educator, librarians and school communities to observe this month with appropriate program, ceremonies and activities; hereby support local education agencies in their efforts to commemorate Native American heritage by providing instructional and community resources, relevant research and promising practices during National Native American Heritage Month and throughout the year.

Board Resolution No. 26 follows on the next page.

Next Steps:

- Send out LACOE Communication to the 80 districts to encourage districts, schools and community organizations to observe this day with appropriate programs and activities.
- Please visit LACOE's National Native American Heritage Month resource webpage for additional information and instructional resources to support curriculum development and lesson planning across L.A. County's educational communities.
- Please visit LACOE's Center for History-Social Sciecne Education unit webpage for additional information, resources and professional learning opportunities designed to help L.A. County educators and district leaders build knowledge and strengthen instructional strategies to support their school communities.

BOARD RESOLUTION
NO. 26: 2026-27
Recognizing National Native American Heritage Month

WHEREAS, "National Native American Heritage Month" celebrates and recognizes the Indigenous peoples who were the original inhabitants of what is now the United States (U.S.); and

WHEREAS, in 1976, U.S. President Gerald Ford proclaimed November 10-16 as "Native American Awareness Week," and in 1986 the U.S. Congress authorized and requested the U.S. President to proclaim the week of November 23-30, 1986, as "American Indian Week"; and

WHEREAS, beginning in 1990, the month of November was designated as "National American Indian Heritage Month," and the proclamation of U.S. President George H. W. Bush in 1990 acknowledged that Indigenous peoples "developed rich, thriving cultures, as well as their own systems of social order" before contact with European settlers and endorsed self-determination for Indigenous peoples by reaffirming "support for increased Indian control over tribal government affairs"; and

WHEREAS, U.S. President Barack Obama designated each November as "National Native American Heritage Month"; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of California signed bills on "Native American Day" September 25, 2020 to strengthen and clarify the process to repatriate Native American remains and artifacts (AB 275), increase Native American voting rights (AB 2314) and reduce the rates of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls (AB 3099); and

WHEREAS, the State of California is home to nearly 200 Native American tribes and Indigenous peoples remain actively engaged in cultural revitalization, resource protection and self-determination within every region of California; and

WHEREAS, the County of Los Angeles is located on lands sacred to Native Californians including the Tongva, Chumash and Kizh peoples; and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles County Office of Education seeks to honor the Indigenous peoples who have inhabited this place for generations and endeavors to be a good steward of the land and waterways for future generations; and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles County Office of Education recognizes that systematic denial of Native American knowledge, cultural authority and historical experiences perpetuates the colonial structure of oppression; and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles County Office of Education recognizes indigenous lands and peoples through a land acknowledgement at celebrations and public meetings of the Los Angeles County Board of Education.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Los Angeles County Board of Education and County Superintendent of Schools hereby recognize "National Native American Heritage Month" and support opportunities for all students, staff and members of the public to recognize indigenous histories and cultures; and celebrate contributions to American society.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Los Angeles County Board of Education and the County Superintendent of Schools hereby encourage public officials, educators, librarians and school communities to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Los Angeles County Board of Education and the County Superintendent of Schools hereby support local education agencies in their effort to commemorate Native American heritage by providing instructional and community resources, relevant research and promising practices during "National Native American Heritage Month" and throughout the year.

ADOPTED this 20th day of October 2026 by the Los Angeles County Board of Education in Downey, California.

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

Theresa Montaño, Ed.D.
Board President