

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

PACIFICA SCHOOL DISTRICT
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-09-14-D

Whereas, the idea of Indigenous People’s Day was first proposed in 1977 by a delegation of Native nations to the United Nations-sponsored International Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas; and

Whereas, in an effort to reveal a more accurate historical record of the “discovery” of the United States of America, representatives from 120 Indigenous nations at the First Continental Conference on 500 years of Indian Resistance, unanimously passed a resolution to transform Columbus day into an occasion to recognize the contributions of Indigenous people despite enormous efforts against native nations; and

Whereas PSD recognizes American Indian People and their accomplishments and contributions past and present; and

Whereas, PSD recognizes Pacifica is built upon the homelands and villages of Indigenous People, such as the Ohlone; and

Whereas numerous school districts and municipalities have already switched from Columbus Day to Indigenous People’s Day; and

Whereas, PSD recognizes Indigenous People are still here, with the largest population of American Indians residing in California; and

Whereas, honoring Christopher Columbus, who did not contribute to science but who inflicted lasting historical trauma to indigenous people sends the wrong message to our children;

Whereas, the children of the Pacifica School District deserve a well balanced education that includes the history of the struggles and accomplishments of Native American peoples, and deserve to not be taught things that are outdated and seen by contemporary thinkers as mythology;

Whereas there are countless movements around the world and in the US at the present time by native people to protect land, fight against climate destroying projects, and build viable cultural systems;

Therefore be it resolved that:

Beginning in academic year 2017/18 the second Monday of October will be referred to as Indigenous People’s Day and not as Columbus Day in Pacifica School District

Be it further resolved that the district will make resources available to teachers and do training on appropriate ways to teach about the history, struggles, and accomplishments of Native peoples.

AYES:_____ NOES:_____ ABSENT:_____

Attest:

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the resolution duly and regularly adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Pacifica School District at a meeting thereof held on the 14th day of September, 2016, and that the same now appears on record in my office.

Secretary

President