



**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF PETALUMA CITY
ELEMENTARY AND PETALUMA JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICTS
("PETALUMA CITY SCHOOLS"), DECLARING NOVEMBER AS NATIVE
AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH**

WHEREAS Native American peoples, histories, and cultures are core to the story of the United States as the first peoples to live on and steward this land, and they continue to shape our country's character and cultural heritage today; and

WHEREAS, Native Americans have made distinct and important contributions to the United States and the rest of the world in many fields, including the fields of agriculture, medicine, music, language, and art, which continue to thrive in Native communities across our nation today, including through cultural revitalization, resource protection, and the exercise of inherent sovereignty and self-determination; and

WHEREAS, tribal nations contributed to this great country certain values and ideas that have become ingrained in the American spirit: the knowledge that humans can thrive and prosper without destroying the natural environment; the understanding that people from different backgrounds, cultures, religions, and traditions can come together to build a great country; and the awareness that diversity can be a source of strength, rather than division; and

WHEREAS, the state of California is home to nearly 200 Native American tribes, while Sonoma County has five federally recognized tribes within its boundaries - the Cloverdale Rancheria of Pomo Indians, the Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians, the Federated Indians of the Graton Rancheria, the Kashia Band of Pomo Indians of the Stewarts Point Reservation and the Lytton Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians; and

WHEREAS, Petaluma City Schools is located on the ancestral lands of the Coast Miwok people, within the traditional homeland of the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria; and

WHEREAS, Petaluma City Schools recognizes that colonial structures of oppression resulted in the death of millions of Native Americans, land dispossession, language and culture loss, diminished Native American knowledge and cultural authority, which left a legacy of tragedy and trauma that Native people still grapple with today.

WHEREAS, our tribal communities continue to confront disparities, including higher rates of poverty, unemployment, and health challenges, while working with strength and determination to overcome these barriers; and

WHEREAS, Native peoples continue to demonstrate resilience, leadership, and cultural revitalization through language restoration, land stewardship, education, and community wellness efforts;

WHEREAS, The Petaluma City Schools Board of Education recognizes that each student needs an opportunity to understand the common humanity underlying all people; to develop pride in their own identity and heritage, and to understand respect, and accept the identity and heritage of others; and

WHEREAS, the Petaluma City Schools Board of Education is committed to enhancing equity, inclusion, diversity, and partnership and remains dedicated to providing schools and districts with resources and supports to implement the History Social-Science standards and civic engagement, and promote understanding of economics, geography, world and U.S. history, and government in schools; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Petaluma City Schools Board of Education proclaims the month of November as Native American Heritage Month.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Petaluma City Schools commits to working in partnership with local tribes and Native communities to honor and uplift Native voices, histories, and contributions year-round.

The foregoing resolution was introduced by Board Member Webster, who moved its adoption, seconded by Member Quinn, and adopted on roll call by the following vote:

CLOUD: Aye PAUN: Aye QUINN: Aye WEBSTER: Aye WILLIAMS: Absent

WHEREUPON, the President declared the above resolution adopted, and SO ORDERED this 14th day of October 2025.



Mady Cloud, President, Board of Education

ATTEST:



Matthew Harris, Superintendent