

Resolution Recognizing November 2016 as American Indian Heritage Month

WHEREAS, Native Americans were the first to carve out cities, domesticate crops, and establish great civilizations. When the Framers gathered to write the United States Constitution, they drew inspiration from the Iroquois Confederacy, and in the centuries since, American Indians and Alaska Natives from hundreds of tribes have shaped our national life. During Native American Heritage Month, we honor their vibrant cultures, and

WHEREAS, as we observe this month, we must not ignore the painful history Native Americans have endured -- a history of violence, marginalization, broken promises, and upended justice. There was a time when native languages and religions were banned as part of a forced assimilation policy that attacked the political, social, and cultural identities of Native Americans in the United States. Through generations of struggle, American Indians and Alaska Natives held fast to their traditions, and eventually the United States Government repudiated its destructive policies and began to turn the page on a troubled past, and

WHEREAS, as we observe Native American Heritage Month, we must build on this work let us shape a future worthy of a bright new generation, and together, let us ensure this country's promise is fully realized for every Native American, and

WHEREAS, time and again throughout our Nation's history, Native Americans have demonstrated their dedication to ideals upon which the United States is founded. In times of war and in times of peace, they have faithfully defended the principles of freedom and representative government. They have worked for the advancement of human rights and democratic ideals around the world, and they have promoted greater appreciation for our system of self-government here at home.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Santa Rosa City Schools hereby recognizes November 2016 as Native American Heritage Month.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on October 12, 2016.

Jenni Klose, Clerk of the Board