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SUQUAMISH INDIAN TRIBE
OF THE PORT MADISON RESERVATION
RESOLUTION 2026-068

SUPPORTING EDUCATION ABOUT THE SUQUAMISH TRIBE THROUGH THE SUQUAMISH CENTERED CURRICULUM

WHEREAS, the Suquamish Tribal Council ("Council") is the duly constituted governing body of the Port Madison Reservation by authority of the Constitution and Bylaws for the Suquamish Indian Tribe of the Port Madison Reservation, Washington, as approved on July 2, 1965, by the Under-Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior;

WHEREAS, under Article III of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Suquamish Indian Tribe, the Council is empowered to negotiate with Federal, State, and local governments on behalf of the Tribe and to promote the social and economic welfare of the Suquamish people;

WHEREAS, in 2005, Washington State enacted a law to promote government-to-government collaboration between school boards and Indian tribal councils on the incorporation and inclusion of curricula about tribal history, culture, and government[1];

WHEREAS, in 2015, the State enacted a law reaffirming its commitment to educating children of the State about Indian tribes by requiring school districts to incorporate curricula about the history, culture, and government of the nearest federally recognized Indian tribe or tribes and to collaborate with such tribe or tribes on the development of that curricula[2];

WHEREAS, in 2024, the State enacted a law to name the State-required curriculum incorporating tribal history, culture, and government the "John McCoy (lulilaš) Since Time Immemorial Curriculum," in honor of late legislator and Tulalip tribal citizen John McCoy, whose Lushootseed name was lulilaš[3];

WHEREAS, the Suquamish Tribe collaborates with local and neighboring school districts on their incorporation of the Suquamish Centered Curriculum, including North Kitsap School District, Central Kitsap School District, South Kitsap School District, Bainbridge Island School District, Bremerton School District, Edmonds School District, South Whidbey Island School District, Mercer Island School District, Seattle Public Schools, Peninsula School District, and Chief Kitsap Academy;

[1] Substitute House Bill 1495, amending RCW 28A.230.090; adding a new section to chapter 28A.345 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 28A.320 RCW; and creating a new section.
[2] Substitute Senate Bill 5433, amending RCW 28A.320.170 and creating a new section.
[3] House Bill 1879, amending RCW 28A.320.170, 28A.300.444, and 28A.715.005; and adding new sections to chapter 28A.320 RCW.

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WHEREAS, the Suquamish Tribe wrote the Suquamish Centered Curriculum, with support from a grant from the Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), for schools to incorporate and use in fulfillment of State requirements;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tribal Council hereby APPROVES of the Suquamish Centered Curriculum; RECOMMENDS its adoption and incorporation by schools across the territory; DIRECTS the Suquamish Department of Education to maintain and update the Curriculum as necessary and appropriate; and DIRECTS the Suquamish Tribal Government to maintain free access to the Curriculum for schools and educators.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was duly adopted on March 23, 2026 at a regular meeting of the Suquamish Tribal Council at which a quorum was present, by a vote of 5 for and 0 against, with 0 abstention(s), in accordance with and pursuant to the authority vested in it by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Suquamish Indian Tribe.

By:

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Leonard Forsman, Chairman

Attested to by:

Signed by:
Irene Carper
CFF097BDE06142A...

Irene Carper, Secretary