



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor



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EDUCATION

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Colt Gill

Director of the Oregon Department of Education

November 5, 2018

Update on Senate Bill 13, Tribal History/Shared History

Background: Senate Bill 13

Governor Brown introduced and signed into law [Senate Bill 13](#), Tribal History/Shared History in the 2017 legislative session. This Bill called upon the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to develop a statewide curriculum relating to the Native American experience in Oregon, including tribal history, tribal sovereignty, culture, treaty rights, government, socioeconomic experiences, and current events.

Tribal History/Shared History is one of 11 objectives identified in [ODE's American Indian/Alaska Native State Plan](#), in which *"Every school district in Oregon implements historically accurate, culturally embedded, place-based, contemporary, and developmentally-appropriate American Indian curriculum..."* Oregon is one of several states adopting similar efforts to reaffirm the state's commitment in preserving tribal cultural integrity and the education of our citizens.

Initial Progress

In May, ODE awarded Education Northwest a contract to assist in the creation of Essential Understandings of Oregon's American Indians, which will be used to develop American Indian curriculum and assessment tools for 4th, 8th, and 10th grades aligning with state standards in the following content areas: English Language Arts, Science, Math, Social Science, and Physical Education/Health.

Education Northwest convened an advisory council comprised of representatives appointed from each of the 9 federally recognized tribes in Oregon, to begin drafting the Essential Understandings. The ODE will continue to work with the 9 federally recognized tribes to finalize the Essential Understandings over the next few months.

Curriculum Development and Professional Learning

Once the Essential Understandings are finalized, Education Northwest will begin drafting curriculum to be implemented in classrooms during the 2019-2020 academic year. Professional learning opportunities will be available to educators prior to the curriculum implementation.

Supports and Funding for Oregon's 9 Federally Recognized Tribes

Additionally, Senate Bill 13 provides funds to the 9 federally recognized tribes in Oregon to support the development of tribal place-based curriculum. Curricular materials developed will expand and improve Tribal History/Shared History curriculum requirements. The Office of Indian Education within ODE shall assist school

districts in identifying federally recognized tribes whose traditional areas of interest are located on or near the school district.

Please contact April Campbell, Indian Education Advisor to the Director of the Oregon Department of Education, for questions or further clarification (april.campbell@state.or.us or 503-947-5810).

Respectfully,



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Director, Oregon Department of Education