



196 Main Street, New Paltz, New York 12561 • Tel. (845)256-4020 • Fax (845)256-4025

**BOARD OF  
EDUCATION**

**Indigenous Peoples Day**

Aimee Hemminger  
President

**Approved by the Board of Education, June 21, 2017**

Michael O'Donnell  
Vice President

**RESOLUTION**

Brian Cournoyer  
Member

**WHEREAS**, the New Paltz Central School District Board of Education, by resolution approved at the December 17, 2016 Board meeting, expressed its intent to carefully explore and consider renaming the second Monday in October, recognized as Columbus Day federally since 1968 (with earlier state observances since 1907, including New York State in 1909), as Indigenous Peoples Day; and

Alison Easton  
Member

**WHEREAS**, the Board, at its December 17, 2016 meeting expressed its reasons for considering this change, including, but not limited to: recognizing the Native Americans who contributed to the culture, history and uniqueness of this region (e.g., Lenni-Lenape and Esopus nations); the re-examination of how American history is taught to our students, a more complete examination of the Doctrine of Discovery; an exploration of the continuing contributions of Indigenous peoples to the entirety of the Americas; and equipping students with a thorough knowledge of the complexity of history to empower them to fight for justice and resource protection; and

Steven Greenfield  
Member

Sophia Skiles  
Member

Matthew Williams  
Member

**WHEREAS**, the act of renaming the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples Day would be the first step to accomplishing these goals. Subsequent to this action the District will endeavor to utilize the period between the second Monday in October and Thanksgiving as an opportunity to honor and respect Indigenous Peoples and their contributions to this region and the Americas in an effort to build a more aware, inclusive, and knowledgeable school community;

**SUPERINTENDENT**  
Maria C. Rice

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the New Paltz Central School District, hereby approves the designation of the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples Day; and

**DISTRICT CLERK**  
Dusti Callo

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board directs the Administration to undertake a review of the curriculum consistent with the state learning standards, with the intention to present students, in an age-appropriate manner, with a more complete examination of the history of the Americas, this region, and the community in which the School District is situated to reflect the continuing legacy of Indigenous Peoples and celebrate their heritage and resiliency as part of our shared history.