

KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
AGENDA STATEMENT

No. 9 c

MEETING OF December 11, 2019

Reviewed By

Item Title:

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of a Memorandum of Understanding with KIC

[X] Superintendent

SUBMITTED BY Superintendent Beth Lougee

Contact Person/Telephone

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL

Name

Phone

Elizabeth Lougee
Superintendent

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

The School Board is being asked to approve a Memorandum of Understanding with Ketchikan Indian Community.

ISSUE:

Ketchikan Indian Community Tribal Council and the School Board have been discussing an MOU regarding the education of Native youth and decreasing the drop-out rate.

FISCAL NOTE :

[X] N/A EXPENDITURE
REQUIRED \$ _____

AMOUNT
AVAILABLE \$ _____

ATTACHMENT:

- MOU as last revised

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

"I move that the Board of Education approve the attached Memorandum of Understanding with Ketchikan Indian Community."

Memorandum of Understanding
Between the Ketchikan Indian Community and the
Ketchikan Gateway Borough School District

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is executed between the Ketchikan Indian Community (KIC) and the Ketchikan Gateway Borough School District (KGBSD) in order to document the partnership understandings between the KGBSD and the KIC.

In serving their mutual students they agree to work together to create a more successful student community recognizing that positive role models are an important component to growing a strong and diverse student population.

WHEREAS, the KIC is a federally recognized Indian Tribe located in and around the community of Ketchikan, Alaska with an interest in fostering the education of youth served by the Tribe and create successful future leaders of the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, the KIC has a vital interest in providing the best education for youth in its community, increasing the Alaska Native/American Indian high school graduation rate thereby decreasing the overall KGBSD school dropout rate, as well as providing cultural learning resources and an understanding of tribal values and beliefs that foster a productive student and citizen in the community; and

WHEREAS, This MOU considers the issue of other entities expressing the same interest of participation in the selection of educators and administrators. However, the KIC's standing under Federal law creates a unique of Government to Government relationship, in accordance with the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934; and

WHEREAS, the KGBSD is a public school district responsible for students in and around Ketchikan, Alaska that also, has a vital interest in educating students to be responsible citizens and creating effective learning environments for students within its district which includes creating positive role models that all students can identify with; and

WHEREAS, the KGBSD, in the best interest of all students, shall expand their educational options available to students by providing diversity in their recruitment and hiring process pursuant to this Agreement for the reasons cited herein; and

WHEREAS, the KGBSD and the Tribe have collaborated to create a strong working relationship and students are provided resources from both entities in order to better ensure their successful future; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the parties to this agreement find that in order to provide the best educational opportunities for their mutual students, the KIC and KGBSD strive and agree to the following understandings:

- I. The object of this Agreement is to memorialize various understandings between the KIC and KGBSD for the recruitment and hiring of a diverse and representative body of educators and administrators that reflect the student population more closely.
- II. This MOU creates inclusion on the hiring committees for the KGBSD and is solely intended to create diversity in our schools for all students. The school enrollment population includes 36% Alaska Native/American Indian with an unacceptable dropout rate. The dropout rate has a direct relationship with the need for a more positive role models in the KGBSD. This agreement also expresses a need to diversify hiring committees to include at least 20% of elected Tribal officials or their designees from a list provided by the tribe annually. The KIC recognizes that this is a long term problem which will require support and positive transformational thinking.
- III. As part of this MOU, the KIC will commit to offering Higher Education funding for the development of Native Educators that in-turn will be eligible for hiring in the KGBSD.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the KGBSD and the KIC agree and confirm that diversity in the education of our students is both a positive reflection of our community and will be a contributing factor in creating a learning environment that not only provides roles models for the Alaska Native/American Indian Population but creates opportunities for all ethnic groups in the KGBSD.

DATE: _____

KGBSD. School Board President

KIC, President