

STOUGHTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Administrative and Educational Services Center 320 North Street • Stoughton, WI 53589-1733 (608) 877-5000

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WE, the Board of Education of the Stoughton Area School District, do resolve that

WHEREAS the continued use of Native American mascots, symbols, images, logos, and nicknames by non-Native people undermines the educational experiences of members of all communities; and

WHEREAS the continued use of Native American mascots, symbols, images, logos and nicknames by non-Native people teaches non-Native American children that it is acceptable to engage in culturally abusive behavior and perpetuate misconceptions about Native American people, culture, history, sovereignty, government, customs, and traditions; and

WHEREAS the continued use of Native American mascots, symbols, images, logos and nicknames by non-Native people establishes an unwelcome, divisive and hostile learning environment for Native American students that affirms negative stereotypes that are promoted in mainstream society; and

WHEREAS the continued use of Native American mascots and other images by non-Native people are an offensive and intolerable practice to Native American Tribal Nations; and

WHEREAS the continued use of Native American mascots, symbols, images, logos, and nicknames by non-Native people has a negative impact on other communities by perpetuating stereotypes and stigmatizing another cultural group; and

WHEREAS the continued use of Native American mascots, symbols, images, logos, and nicknames by non-Native people undermines the ability of Native American Tribal Nations to portray respectful and accurate images of their history, culture, government, sovereignty, customs, and traditions:

WE, the Board of Education of the Stoughton Area School District therefore join other Wisconsin School Boards that have put forth this or similar resolutions and call upon our fellow Wisconsin school districts to choose mascots that do not demean Native peoples.

Signed,

The Stoughton Area School District Board of Education by:

Yolibeth FitzGibbon, Clerk