

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE LOWER ELWHA KLALLAM TRIBE
AND THE PORT ANGELES SCHOOL DISTRICT # 121
JULY 2021 – JULY 2023**

Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe is a federally-recognized tribe. The Lower Elwha Klallam Government and Reservation is located within Clallam County, Washington State and the boundaries of the Port Angeles School District.

It is the purpose and commitment, of the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe and the Port Angeles School District come together to develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that will allow both parties to talk together and learn together in order to create an environment that promotes closing of the opportunity gap and increase graduation level for our Native American Indian students in the spirit of the Centennial Accord and Millennium Agreement with the State of Washington and as identified under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

INTENT:

This agreement recognized the importance of developing curricula that relates the history culture and government of Pacific Northwest Indian Tribes, especially that of the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, for all students in the District. It also recognizes that improvements are needed in the education of Native American Indian youth to strengthen their academic achievement and enhance life opportunities, and that the education of Native American Indian children can be advanced by providing curricula that includes Tribal experiences and perspectives.

Port Angeles School District # 121 (hereafter "District") and the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe (hereafter "Tribe") enter into this formal written memorandum of understanding to implement educational and cultural strategies to close the opportunity gap for all Native American students within the Port Angeles School District. The District and Tribe will collaborate to establish curricula on Tribal History, Culture, Tribal Sovereignty and Government in the District.

II. SCOPE OF AGREEMENT:

This Agreement is intended to establish Tribal curricula for use in schools under the oversight of the Port Angeles School District Board of Directors.

III. DATE AND TERM:

This Agreement will become effective upon signing by all parties and will commence at the start of the 2021 – 2022 school year. The Agreement will be reviewed annually by the parties to determine its continuation and/or need for modification

Mission Statement

The District and the Tribe will collaborate to ensure we are creating an environment in which Native American Indian students, their families and school staff members will thrive through promoting dialogue, culture exchanges, and implementing strategies to close the opportunity gap for our Native American Indian students. By doing so the District and the Tribe are working towards sustaining an adequate government to government relationship and ensuring Native American Indian Students the opportunity to be successful in all their endeavors.

Vision

All District and Native American Indian students will feel they are in a safe learning environment that is accepting of their culture, language, and history. Through this collaboration it gives us vision for awareness, acceptance, and acknowledgement in finding common ground in the success of Native American Indians in graduating to be prepared for life-long learning.

PARTIES MUTUAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Port Angeles School District and Lower Elwha tribe commits to:

- District and Tribe Personnel will meet in July to discuss the school year needs of all Native American Students within the District. The discussion will include salaries, benefits, job descriptions, compensation, professional development and individual school need for the following year. The district and tribe will develop a matrix for the evaluation of the effectiveness of programs through the direct analysis of student achievement data along with daily attendance and progress toward graduation.
- Designated District and Tribe personnel will attend quarterly scheduled leadership meetings to collaborate and focus on the overall mission to close the opportunity gap. The committee will discuss and resolve any incidences that may occur due to different cultures within the district.
- Regularly share information about students' successes and barriers to success with the intent to improve programs and ensure high school completion by students served by these programs.
- Designated District and Tribe personnel will attend regularly scheduled meetings of the CARES Team to assure tribal representation.
- Designated District and Tribe personnel will attend all scheduled Johnson O'Malley Title 6 meetings to give a report on the work that they are doing at their respective school. Individual reports will include students' successes and barriers to success, attendance, enrollment, challenges, and resources that may be needed. The District will compensate district academic support personnel for attendance at these meetings. Employees will be notified of the scheduled meetings.
- District and Tribe personnel will schedule an annual joint (partnership) meeting of the District School Board Directors and Tribal Council to confer on the progress of tribally-supported students and programs and to continue to strengthen our communications and commitment to the students' success. This MOU will be reviewed at this meeting.
- District and Tribe personnel will work collaboratively to implement "sovereignty curriculum": as stated in RCW 28A.320.170,(1)(b) and (2) with a focus on Klallam history within the classrooms at the PASD Elementary Schools, Stevens Middle School, Port Angeles High School and Lincoln High School.
- District and Tribe allocate resources to be used to directly enhance the education of all Native American Indian Students, and to leverage community resources and expertise to further the education of all students by working to close the opportunity gap and increase cultural awareness.
- District and Tribe personnel will work collaboratively to educate and enhance the understanding within our community about Klallam language, history and culture such as potlatch, culture exchange and other cultural outreach activities within Port Angeles Schools to advance the educational relationship. Request for information and activities will be coordinated with the Klallam Language Teacher(s).
- District and Tribe Personnel will assure completion of the work plan including sharing attendance, grades and academic data in relevant grants applied for and by the tribe.

- Ensure consistent attendance by District/Tribe representatives are at all meeting and function related to accomplishing the objectives of this agreement.
- District and Tribe personnel will support the evaluation of the effectiveness of programs through the direct analysis of student achievement in the area of language arts, science and math as well as daily attendance and measured impact will be completed as part of the funding requirements.
- The parties agreed to look for resources, best practices and connect with other successful schools for innovation of educational strategies in ways to close the opportunity gap for all Native American Indian students within the District. The District will send staff to train in the ELL endorsement.
- District and Tribe support will stay in compliance with provisions and assurances required for participation in federally-funded title programs used to fund the educational and education support programs.
- District and Tribe will support having a teacher apprentice for the following high school classes, Klallam Language (years 1 – 3). Native American Studies and U.S. History from the Native American Perspectives. This student teacher apprentice will be preparing to take over teaching these classes within the next five (5) years as they are working toward their teacher certification requirements. This is to ensure the continuation of teaching these classes for future generations.
- Work cooperatively to ensure appropriate, efficient communication in support of the objectives of this agreement.

PORT ANGELES SCHOOL DISTRICT’S RESPONSIBILITES:

The Port Angeles School District commits to:

- Convene an Instructional Materials Committee (IMC) for the purpose of recommending curricula that incorporates Tribal History, Culture, and Government for use in the District’s schools when curriculum aligns with the Port Angeles School District’s adoption matrix cycle.
- The IMC will include appropriate representation from the Tribe.
- Ensure that the IMC considers curricula that incorporates information specifically related to the History, Culture and Government of the Tribe.
- Provide use of facilities and staff support necessary for the implementation of curricula on Tribal History, Culture and Government.
- Explore potential sources of funding or other resources for development and implementation of Tribal curricula.
- Identify the appropriate curricula and establish, in consultation with the Tribe, an implementation strategy.
- Provide staff training and instructional materials related to the identified curricula.
- Provide information to parents, students and the community regarding the implementation of the Tribal curricula.
- District will match funds to the Tribe for School District Potlatch of \$5,000.00 annually.
- District will provide a desk or desk space in its facilities for all academic support personnel while they are engaged in outreach and academic instruction for all Native American students within the District.
- District will provide annual funding to match salary and benefits for the Klallam Language Teacher position at Port Angeles High School and funding for three (3) Native American Interventionists, one position at the Port Angeles High School, one position at Stevens Middle School/Lincoln High School and one position at Dry Creek Elementary School.
 - The responsibilities of these positions will include instruction of the Klallam Language, Cultural Outreach, Mental and Physical Health Navigator Support, and Academic

Assistance. District personnel will provide supervision of these positions. Training for the Navigator Support concept will be provided by the Port Angeles School District.

- The District will provide one seat on the Policy Review Committee for a LEKT member to participate.
- District will honor tribal cultural ceremonial practices by acceptance and support of graduating seniors who choose to wear cultural regalia at their respective high school graduation ceremony. This practice will also adhere to other such ceremonial events in schools. Kindergarten through high school graduation. (As referenced in RCW 28A.600.500)
- District will reduce the length of time students are excluded from school due to suspension or expulsion and provide student support to develop a re-engagement plan.
- District will engage families with ISS Integrated Student Services.
- District will help strengthen student transitions, elementary school to middle school as well as middle school to high school.
- District will utilize part of the Title VI funding to acquire at least one AmeriCorps annually to provide specific academic support to the Native American Indian youth at the Port Angeles High School and at Lincoln High School.
- District will consult with the Tribe at the earliest possible point for the development of applications for the following programs under Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

Title I, Part A, (Improving Basic Programs Operated by State and Local Educational Agencies)
Title I, Part D (Prevention and Intervention Programs for Children and Youth who are Neglected, Delinquent, or At Risk)
Title II, Part A, (Supporting Effective Instruction)
Title III, Part A, (English Language Acquisition, Language Enhancement, and Academic Achievement Act)
Title IV, Part A, (Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants)
Title VI, Part A Subpart 1 (Indian Education Formula Grant to Local Educational Agencies)

Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe commits to:

- Identify appropriate representatives of the Tribe to serve on the Instructional Materials Committee convened by the District to recommend curricula on Tribal History, Culture and Government.
- Provide information regarding the Tribe's Culture, History, and Government that may be useful in enhancing the District's Tribal curricula.
- Facilitate participation by Tribal Elders in sharing perspectives and history that may be useful in enhancing the district's Tribal curricula.
- Encourage community and family supports that will assist students in benefiting from the Tribal curricula.
- Assist in promoting Tribal members awareness of and support for the Tribal curricula project.
- Encourage Tribal members participation in Cultural exchanges organized under this agreement.
- The Tribe will provide annual training to District staff to enhance the Cultural Competency of Port Angeles School District Employees.

The agreement is entered into in the spirit of relationship building. This agreement is made to uphold the commitments established by the 1989 Centennial Accord, the 1999 Millennium Agreement, and the Federal Every Student Succeed Act.

The Lower Elwha Tribal Government or the Port Angeles School District may initiate a formal consultation on an issue of concern by sending a written request for consultation detailing the issue of

concern and requesting a government-to-government consultation at the highest level. For the Port Angeles School District, the request shall be directed to the School Board Chair, for the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe the request shall be directed to the Tribal Chair. The formal consultation process will follow the Tribal Consultation Protocol guidelines developed by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction.

This MOU does not constitute or create, nor intended to create any legally binding or enforceable obligation on the part of either party or relationship between the parties.

Nothing herein shall be deemed to waive the Sovereign Immunity of the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe or its Enterprise, agents or employees.

Signed, this 2nd day of August 2021,

APPROVED BY: Francis B. Chauler
Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe Chairwoman

APPROVED BY: [Signature]
Port Angeles School District Superintendent

