



ANB/ANS Grand Camp
Anchorage, AK October 2019



Resolution 19-23

Title: Request Schools teach Indigenous Languages

WHEREAS, systems of education in Alaska have spent many decades discouraging the use of indigenous languages; and

WHEREAS, each indigenous language has tremendous human value, with vocabulary, diction, grammar, and rhetoric that reflects a distinct worldview, developed and preserved by many generations; and

WHEREAS, there is an acknowledged human right of indigenous peoples to preserve, use, and educate their children in their native languages; and

WHEREAS, we understand that young people deserve an inclusive education that honors their heritage; and

WHEREAS, the state of Alaska recognizes the need for students to learn languages, including the World Languages standard which states “A student should be able to communicate in two or more languages” and recognizes that a student should “apply language skills and cultural knowledge to enhance the student’s intellectual and social growth and to promote lifelong learning”;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alaska Native Brotherhood and the Alaska Native Sisterhood in Grand Camp assembled in October 2019, asks school boards in communities where we have local camps, to collaborate with partners on programs that allow students to acquire and maintain fluency in their languages, including professional development for teachers and administrators on the integration of indigenous language with content standards and instructional strategies, thus expanding economic and academic opportunities for students in accordance with the indigenous language policy considered by the Alaska Association of School Boards.

/s/ Joe Williams, Grand President
Alaska Native Brotherhood

/s/ Paulette Moreno, Grand President
Alaska Native Sisterhood

/s/ James A. Llanos Jr, Grand Secretary
Alaska Native Brotherhood

/s/ Carol Duis, Grand Secretary
Alaska Native Sisterhood