

**SHELTON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 309
SHELTON, WASHINGTON**

Resolution No. 17-07

State-Tribal Education Compact Schools

WHEREAS, WSSDA shall initiate and support legislation that allows state-tribal educational compact schools access to all resources and services that are afforded to Washington State K-12 public schools; and

WHEREAS, in February of 2014, eligible federally recognized tribes or BIE schools became eligible to apply to the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction to initiate negotiations to enact a state-tribal education compact school as enacted under Chapter 392-800 WAC (State-Tribal Education Compact Schools) and Chapter 28A.715 RCW (State-Tribal Education Compacts Authority). These laws were enacted to reaffirm the state's important commitment to government-to-government relationships with tribes that have been recognized by proclamation and in the centennial accord and the millennium agreement. State-tribal compacts build upon the efforts highlighted by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction in its 2012 Centennial Accord Agency highlights including: the Since Time Immemorial (STI), Tribal Sovereignty in Washington State Curriculum Project that imbeds the history surrounding sovereignty and intergovernmental responsibilities into our state's classrooms, the agency's regular meetings with the superintendents of the current tribal schools, as well as the federal Bureau of Indian Education representatives at the regional and national level on issue relating to student academic achievement, accessing the funds for tribal schools and connecting tribal schools to the K-20 network and the establishment, in statute, of the Office of Native Education within the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction; and

WHEREAS, State-Tribal Education Compact Schools would have access to resources and services in order to assist with policy and procedures, training and conference attendance. They would be responsible to pay for services (if applicable); and

WHEREAS, Washington legislation finds that there is a preparation gap among entering kindergartners with many children especially those from low-income homes, arriving at kindergarten without the knowledge, skills and good health necessary to succeed in school. Upon entry into the K-12 school system, the educational opportunity gap becomes more evident, with children of color, race and from low-income homes having lower scores on math, reading and writing standardized tests, as well as lower graduation rates and higher rates of dropping out of schools and comprehensive, culturally competent early learning and great collaboration between the early learning and K-12 school systems will ensure appropriate connections and smoother transitions for children and help eliminate or bridge gaps that might otherwise develop (Chapter 28A.715.005 RCW). Building relationships between tribal and non-tribal schools, infusing cultural and language support into school buildings within all Washington State schools and increasing WSSDA's capacity to serve all board members, administrators, staff members, students and families are essential for student success within our school system.

THEREFORE, the Shelton School District Board of Directors supports WSSDA's initiative to pass legislation to extend its membership options, resources and services to State-Tribal Education Compact Schools.

APPROVED by the Board of Directors of Shelton School District No. 309, Mason County, Washington, on the 11th day of July 2017.

SHELTON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 309
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Keri Darden
Sandy Graywell
Sally A Brownfield
Sally J Karr
OP

ATTEST:

Alan P. Asparto
Secretary to the Board