



STATE OF MICHIGAN
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 22, 2016

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents
Public School Academy Directors

FROM: John C. Austin, President, State Board of Education 

SUBJECT: Resolution on Use of American Indian Mascots, Nicknames,
and Logos

The State Board of Education is respectfully reminding local school districts to consider a Resolution it adopted in 2003 that supports and strongly recommends the elimination of American Indian mascots, nicknames, logos, fight songs, insignias, antics, and team descriptors by all Michigan schools.
http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mascots_69612_7.res.pdf

The State Board of Education adopted this Resolution in June of 2003 and reaffirmed its position to local school districts in June 2006 and August 2010. As local school boards and PSA boards, and local superintendents, change over time, the State Board of Education again is strongly recommending the elimination of American Indian mascots, nicknames, logos, fight songs, insignias, antics, and team descriptors by all Michigan schools.

The Department of Civil Rights is available to provide outreach and educational materials on this issue. You may contact Melissa A. Kiesewetter, Native American Specialist, at kiesewetterm@michigan.gov, telephone 231-439-5247, for assistance.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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