

Old Capitol Building
PO Box 47200
Olympia, WA 98504-7200



Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
Chris Reykdal, Superintendent

k12.wa.us

June 26, 2020

(X) Action Required

(X) Informational

BULLETIN NO. 045-20 SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND FEDERAL ACCOUNTABILITY

TO: Educational Service District Superintendents
School District Superintendents
School District Principals
High School Counselors

FROM: Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of Public Instruction

RE: Right to Tribal Regalia Act

CONTACT: Jon Claymore, Director of the Office of Native Education
360-725-6160, jon.claymore@k12.wa.us

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND

Effective March 18, 2020, [House Bill 2551](#) affirms inherent rights assured through tribal sovereignty and expressly provides that school districts must allow American Indian and Alaska Native K–12 and higher education students who are members of federally recognized tribes to wear traditional tribal regalia and objects of cultural significance at graduation ceremonies and related events. In addition, school districts and higher education institutions are required, when necessary, to update relevant policies or procedures in accordance with this law.

School district system leaders and staff are encouraged to promptly consult with tribal nations and collaborate with Native American parent advisory committees and Native American education leaders to develop policies, procedures, and practices associated with the law. It is critical that districts work in a timely manner to resolve any potential issues regarding cultural inclusivity prior to commencement.

INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

For questions regarding this bulletin, please contact Jon Claymore at 360-725-6160 or email jon.claymore@k12.wa.us. The OSPI TTY number is 360-664-3631.

This bulletin is also available on the [Bulletins page of the OSPI website](#).

Michaela W. Miller, Ed.D., NBCT

Deputy Superintendent

Gayle Pauley

Assistant Superintendent

Special Programs & Federal Accountability

Jon Claymore

Director

Office of Native Education

CR: II

OSPI provides equal access to all programs and services without discrimination based on sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. Questions and complaints of alleged discrimination should be directed to the Equity and Civil Rights Director at 360-725-6162/TTY: 360-664-3631; or P.O. Box 47200, Olympia, WA 98504-7200; or equity@k12.wa.us.