



October 2022 | American Indian Initiative Update

The riversideunified.org/AmericanIndianInitiative webpage houses the multi-phased and multi-pronged effort for the American Indian Initiative. Please explore the webpage and learn what we are doing in the areas of leadership, policy, professional development, curriculum and materials, accountability for district climate and student learning and well-being.

- **Leadership**

- Meetings were held this month with local tribal leaders and Native American stakeholders to discuss planned activities through the school year.
- Listening sessions for the broader community will be scheduled for Native American stakeholders to capture feedback and gather input on curriculum, materials, and support for Native American students.
- A Land Acknowledgement was finalized by tribal leaders and reviewed by Native American stakeholders committee.
- Equity board policy 0415 is being revised and will be presented to the RUSD Board of Education in November.

- **Professional Development**

- A committee is back underway to plan district-wide training on implicit bias for all staff. An update to the RUSD Board of Education is planned for December 2022, with training anticipated to begin in February 2023.

- **Curriculum and Materials**

- Third grade resources focused on local Riverside history continue to be updated. Supplemental instructional materials are being gathered and reviewed by Tribal Leaders and stakeholder groups for input and finalization. Once finalized, they will be sent to school and classroom libraries.

- **Student Learning and Well-being**

- Quarterly meetings are scheduled for Native American families. This group will begin developing activities for students to engage in at school that will honor their American Indian ancestry as well as their current tribal traditions. This will consist of planning for campus-based clubs to include all young people interested in American Indian cultural experiences, as well as making connections with local colleges and universities to inform students of unique learning opportunities designed to provide a deeper knowledge about their heritage.

- **Accountability for Upholding District-wide Climate**

- District and school leadership is reinforcing and supporting [RUSD BP 4119.21 Professional Standards](#) across school sites and throughout the district. Leadership underwent training in August 2022 and will be delivering a review of the professional standards to their staff throughout the year that reinforces key professional standards to be upheld by every RUSD employee.