

Hello,

I hope this message finds everyone well. Several months ago, my organization lobbied to the Village Board of Oak Park to no longer recognize Christopher Columbus Day, changing the holiday to a celebration of Indigenous People Day. This proposal included a petition signed by community members and OPRF high school students.

Last night, the Village of Oak Park signed a proclamation, recognizing October 9th as Indigenous People Day. Such a purposeful action not only sends a clear message to community members regarding the importance of diversity and a more accurate reflection of history, it also helps to create further ownership for those disenfranchised.

I have included a copy of this proclamation to this email, which includes a statement by the Village Board encouraging other institutions to recognize Indigenous People's Day.

I plan to attend the next school board meeting on September 26th along with community members, requesting that D97 follow suit and recognize Indigenous People Day in word and in print. October 9th is not soon after this meeting, hopefully the board can expediate discussion and decision on this matter.

Thank you,

Anthony Clark