

Regional Elders Council and Iñupiaq Language Commission Resolution 22-01

A RESOLUTION URGING THE NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT TO INCREASE STUDENT/YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN ELDER AND YOUTH REGIONAL AND STATEWIDE FUNCTIONS

- WHEREAS:** All Iñupiat Ilitqusiatic values are important to the wellbeing of our people and the stewardship of our lands; and
- WHEREAS:** The Iñupiat Ilitqusiatic values should be instilled into the lives of current and future generations; and
- WHEREAS:** The purpose of NANA Regionals Elders Council (REC) is to preserve Iñupiaq Ilitqusiatic and provide land protection with wise council and sharing of Iñupiaq knowledge; and
- WHEREAS:** The Regional Elders Council advises organizations and encourage healthy lifestyles based on both Iñupiaq and Western values; and
- WHEREAS:** The Regional Elders Council appoints Iñupiaq Language Commission Members (ILC) to further the preservation and teaching of the Iñupiaq language; and
- WHEREAS:** The ILC works closely with the REC to jointly host, plan, and participate in events to that end; and
- WHEREAS:** The presence and participation of youth in the ILC's work is important in developing future leaders who will work to preserve the Iñupiaq language and culture; and
- WHEREAS:** Entities throughout the NANA region, including the NWABSD, reflect similar values in their organization initiatives; and
- WHEREAS:** Knowledge of Language is the one value that is as in imminent danger.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the ILC requests that the NWABSD work with the REC and ILC to increase youth involvement in elder gatherings, the Regional Elders and Youth Conference, the First Alaskans Elders and Youth Conference and the AFN Convention in partnership with participating with Elders.

ADOPTED this 19 day of October 2022 at duly called meeting held in Anchorage, Alaska, by a vote of 17 in favor, 0, opposed, and abstaining.



Lawrence Westlake Sr.
President, Regional Elders Council



Mary Schaeffer
President, Iñupiaq Language Commission