



Alaska Association of Student Governments

Resolution # 6

Resolution to Include Cultural Dress at Anchorage School District's Secondary Graduation Ceremonies

Submitted by: Eagle River High School

Submitted: April 8, 2019

Be it Resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments that:

1. **Whereas**, students would still be required to wear the original school designated cap and gown;
2. **Whereas**, many family members travel to Anchorage for the graduation ceremony and their experience would be enriched by the presence of cultural accessories;
3. **Whereas**, this is a positive way for students to publicly celebrate their heritage;
4. **Whereas**, students would wear their accessories over the cap and gown;
5. **Whereas**, students would not be required to add cultural accessories if they choose not to;
6. **Whereas**, letters of approval would have to be signed by parents to ensure it is the student's identified and accurate cultural heritage;
7. **Whereas**, outfits and/or accessories would need to be approved by the administration of the students' school;

8. **Whereas**, there is currently no ASD policy in the Student Handbook stating that students can or cannot add cultural accessories, however, students are still being denied the right;
9. **Whereas**, the definition of accessory is, “a thing which can be added to something else to make it more useful or versatile, or attractive;”
10. **Whereas**, large hats and headdresses may not be worn to replace graduation caps since caps are an ASD graduation ceremony requirement;
11. **Whereas**, cultural accessories may be attached to the graduation cap;
12. **Whereas**, some examples of cultural accessories may include bracelets, necklaces, feathers, anklets, and any others approved by the administration of the students’ school;
13. **Whereas**, East High School and Bartlett High School are the top two most diverse public high schools in the country;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Alaska Association of Student Governments supports that graduating students of the Anchorage School District be permitted to incorporate cultural accessories atop of their cap and gown at graduation.

Action Statement: if passed by the General Assembly of AASG, will proceed to the Anchorage School District School Board for further discussion and possible implementation.

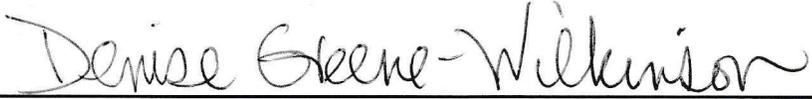
Sources:

1. <https://www.niche.com/k12/search/most-diverse-public-high-schools/>

Passed unanimously by the 2019 Spring Conference GA at Bethel Regional High School



AASG Vice President, Kyle Hasse



AASG Executive Director, Denise Greene-Wilkinson