



**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.

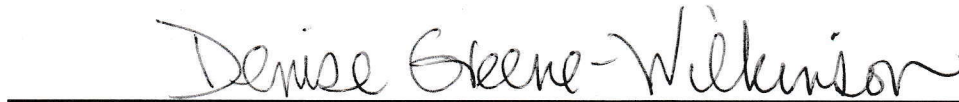
Sources:

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**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kyle Hasse", written over a horizontal line.

**AASG Vice President, Kyle Hasse**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Denise Greene-Wilkinson", written over a horizontal line.

**AASG Executive Director, Denise Greene-Wilkinson**