



Change the Mascot

Recommendations of the Review Committee

Considerations

What is Best for Students

- Native American Perspectives
- Student Safety, Health, Learning
- Values and Commitments of ICSD
- Student Unity & Pride

71%
(17:7)

This is about doing what's right--not majority rule or popularity polls

Native Student Perspectives

I feel like a myth, like I'm not a real person.

Try being in some of our shoes.. Matter of fact, try being in our skin. There's things that go on at this school, many racial things....people are scared to get the word out.

“As a Cedar High school student and a Paiute member, I do not feel honored to be a “Redmen” I’ve seen a lot of disrespect on my culture at the school....I’m speaking for the students that feel pressured to speak up because they don’t want to deal with the hate, bullying and judgement.... I know I’m not alone but I will stand alone if I have to.”

– Thalia Guerrero (Enrolled Paiute member and Senior at Cedar High School)

“I am a proud Navajo and Northern Paiute, and I feel this mascot change would be a positive change for the community.”

(comment by from email #47)

Student Safety (in the 21st Century)

“Iron County School District is committed to providing school safety programs and a variety of prevention and intervention services for students and their families.”

- Students have been targets of hate and bullying because of the Redmen mascot
- Rates of suicide among Native Americans ages 10-17 is the highest rate for any race or ethnicity, according to the CDC
- A 2011 study linked bullying as a contributing factor to rising suicide rates
- U.S. Dpt. of Justice statistics support culturally insensitive mascots can lead to intolerance and hate crimes.





Native Lives Matter

March 29, 2018 · 🌐

It must be real fun to dress up as a culture that has endured hundreds of years of oppression and say they are "honoring" us. A high school in Cedar City, Utah swears they are honoring the Natives b when confronted they tell tribal members if they can't speak their language then their opinion means nothing. Cedar High School cheer team honors the people by parading around in garbage and has tons and tons of fun...did any of them show support for DAPL? Do they reach out to our elders?? NOPE!



Nitisha Dabholkar I called the school. It went to VM but I left a message. I told them that to me, this was akin to blackface. The fact that it happens in 2018 is even more upsetting. I asked that the school take action. Finally, I told them this was circulating widely on social media and I might not be the only person calling in to express my concerns.

#makethatcall

Like · Reply · 41w



Mare' Catanzaro Chee Disgusting!



Susan Angel Ignorance at its finest !



Sarah Beverley Allan They are teens in high school, I feel the blame lies with the school and parents for not being better teachers. But these girls also need to learn this lesson before the real world...

1 like · Reply · 42w



Shannon Leigh Rejects



Kathy Harrington The teachers and administrators at my high school in Oregon would have been outraged by these "costumes." These young students were dressing in ignorance, but their educators should know better.

ICSD Values & Commitments

Title VI

No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.

Mission ■ Vision ■ Goals

- *Reaching Higher: Creating a Better Tomorrow for **ALL**.*
- *Empowering **ALL** to learn at high-levels through systematic district and school-wide support.*
- *Committed to learning for **ALL**.*

Redmen Defined

Webster's, Collins, Oxford English, and Dictionary.com

- *Older Use, Dated, Archaic*
- *Disparaging and Offensive*
- *A contemptuous term used to refer to a North American Indian.*

Not *all* people take offense, but *some* do.

Are we just being taught that some name is offensive?

After listening to the pain of the people at the first meeting, I have come to understand that this name is a racial slur.



Empowering ALL

In 2005 APA called for the immediate retirement of all American Indian mascots, symbols, images, and personalities ³²

- Research shows harmful effects of racial stereotyping tied to the use of NA mascots--not only Native Americans, but ALL students.
- Native American mascots teach that it's acceptable to participate in culturally abusive behavior and perpetuate inaccurate misconceptions about American Indian culture.
- Native American mascots establish an unwelcome and oftentimes hostile learning environment and affirm negative images/stereotypes

“Stereotyping of ANY group teaches all students that stereotyping of minority groups is acceptable.” (US Commission on Civil Rights)³³

Respect for ALL

“We find the use of Native American mascots to be dehumanizing and disrespectful.” (2011 GPTA testimony before the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs)

2001 The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights calls for an end to the use of Native American images and team names by non-Native schools.

- **The use of Native American images and nicknames in school is insensitive and should be avoided.**
- **Some Native American and civil rights advocates maintain that these mascots may violate anti-discrimination laws.**
- **These references, whether mascots and their performances, logos, or names, are disrespectful and offensive to American Indians and others who are offended by such stereotyping.**

Student Unity & Pride



Where's your mascot?

IF YOU HAVE TO
OVERTHINK YOUR
MASCOT--CHANGE IT.

- Mascot image has been changing to the point of only using the initials CR
- It would be nice to have a less controversial mascot to rally around as a student body.
- A mascot is not a tradition, it's a name and an icon. Traditions will continue on.

Do What's Right

- **Vote for positive change.**
- **Retire the “Redmen” mascot now, with dignity, to preserve its association with a legacy of excellence.**
- **Transition to a new mascot in a manner that promotes inclusivity and strengthens community connections.**

The committee's recommendation

A Call to Action

Change the Mascot

When you know better, you do better.

Citations from The White House Initiative on American Indian and Alaska Native Education

<https://sites.ed.gov/whiaiane/files/2015/10/school-environment-listening-sessions-final-report.pdf>

- 22** Center for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, Health Data Interactive, accessed Feb. 1, 2013, www.cdc.gov/nchs/hdi.htm.
- 23** National Education Association, Focus on American Indians and Alaska Natives, “Bullying Emerges as a Contributing Factor: The Scourge of Suicides among American Indian and Alaska Native Youth,” September 2011, <http://www.nea.org/assets/docs/aianfocus2011-2012.pdf>.
- 28** Stegman and Phillips “Missing the Point.”
- 29** Stephanie Ann Fryberg, “Really? You Don’t Look Like an American Indian: Social Representations and Group Identities,” Doctoral dissertation presented to Stanford University, December 2002, http://www.indianmascots.com/ex-17---fryberg-final_disse.pdf.
- 30** Honorary Tex G. Hall, “Testimony of Hon. Tex G. Hall, Chairman of the Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara Nation and Chairman of the Great Plains Tribal Chairman’s Association on Mascots, Stereotypes, and Native Americans Before the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs,” May 5, 2011, <http://www.indian.senate.gov/sites/default/files/upload/files/Tex-G-Hall-testimony.pdf>.
- 31** National Congress of American Indians, “Ending the Legacy of Racism in Sports & the Era of Harmful ‘Indian’ Sports Mascots,” 2013, http://www.ncai.org/attachments/PolicyPaper_mijApMoUWDbjqFtjAYzQWlqLdrwZvsYfakBwTHpMATcOroYolpN_NCAI_Harmful_Mascots_Report_Ending_the_Legacy_of_Racism_10_2013.pdf.
- 32** “American Psychological Association, Summary of the APA Resolution Recommending Retirement of American Indian Mascots,” 2005, <http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/resources/indian-mascots.aspx>.
- 33** U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, “Statement of U.S. Commission on Civil Rights on the Use of Native American Images and Nicknames as Sports Symbols,” 2001, <http://www.usccr.gov/press/archives/2001/041601st.htm>.

