

As an Oregon educator and parent, I am writing to support ending all forms of racism and discrimination associated with the use of Indian mascots. My experience as a teacher in Oregon working with students with tribal affiliations as well as my experience attending the annual Pow Wows sponsored by Springfield Public Schools has given me a deep sense of respect for the rich cultural heritage shared by those with Native American ancestry.

It makes sense to make a final decision that in our state we will not practice a form of institutionalized racism by continuing to allow Indian mascots, but we will show our respect for the rich Indian history of this land we now call Oregon by ending this practice once and for all.

Respectfully,
Ginny Hoke
Springfield Public Schools