

Afternoon  
Good Morning (Shu' <sup>w</sup> xaa-ghii--'an')

My name is Tye Rilatos (Tay-ii I'-al-tvs waa 'vm-nvsh shi). I am a tribal member of the Confederated tribes of the Siletz Indians, and I am indisputably thrilled to be here this ~~morning~~ <sup>Afternoon</sup>, and honored to speak on behalf of my community ~~and my school~~. I attend Siletz Valley Early College Academy; I am senior in my school and have grown to become a speaker and a leader to others in my community. My goals are big compared to my accomplishments so far; yet, working to make a change in my community for all native kids and adults has been my biggest motivation. I am aware of the issues of the Native American logo and the representation of how native people feel on the sensitive topic, but hopefully today I can help strengthen the message that the warrior head isn't a bad representation.

Most people lack the understanding that there is more behind the Native American logo. I have heard from people that don't like the logos "We are people, not logos", but have they ever looked under the carpet and found what that logo really stands for? In my school we represent the "Warrior Head". It lives in our school and in our hearts and that's why I have a big goal to fill. I ~~and my school~~ and my community are extremely proud of and love our warrior head. It is a living remembrance of what our people went through: how they dealt with the constant hurt and segregation from the human way of life and that even through it all our culture, our voices and our people live. The Siletz tribe is made up of 27 tribes- that's 27 names, 27 groups of warriors. What is a warrior? A warrior is <sup>^</sup>leader, a friend, a soldier, a fighter, a speaker, a scholar, an athlete. The qualities that make up a warrior have an amazing effect on people, so much so that others will look for these qualities so they can find success. ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~

My community doesn't look at the warrior head as a logo; they look at it as a mentality. We are warriors; we went through relocation, we were moved to reservations, and had to deal with termination--Segregated from being humans to be classified as animals. Put into bordering schools and had our traditions changed. We will never hate the ones to put us through these times. More productively we move on and focus to the future of our communities and keep our culture alive so that it may live through the young people. We need to love people as we should. As a warrior would!

Our warrior head doesn't only look back on our history. It also looks forward to the future where we will prove ourselves to be the kind of warrior we have become through our experiences representing the very warrior head that has become our logo—not only of our school but of our very hearts. The youth of our tribe will become the leaders, the teachers, the movers and makers of our tribal future. It is a responsibility that we accept <sup>that</sup> ~~and~~ the warrior head ~~is~~ is a constant representation of what our future can and will be.

It is for these reasons I ask you strongly to <sup>be</sup> ~~vote~~ in favor of our continuing to use the warrior head ~~as our school's logo~~. ~~Dee-ni: Thank you for your time. We are grateful for your listening to us. We are grateful for what you are doing. (English) Thank you for your time. We are grateful for your listening to us. We are grateful for what you are doing.~~

say thank you in  
Dee-ni to final end  
then translation