

Greetings District,

My name is Tamara Brown, Interim Indian Parent Committee (IPC) Chair, and I am here today on behalf of the Native community to express our deep frustration and disappointment with the district's decision to remove Indian Education from the Jefferson modernization plan. Once again, we are being pushed aside, moved around, and treated as an afterthought. This decision does not reflect a genuine commitment to meeting the educational needs of Native students and families. Stability is critical to our success, and yet we are repeatedly displaced, forced to adapt to the district's shifting priorities rather than being recognized as a priority ourselves. We are not saying that Indian Education must be housed at Jefferson—but we do need a permanent home. First, you took away our opportunity to be included in the bond. Now, you are taking away the space that has served our students and families for years. Where is the commitment to Native education in PPS? Where is the accountability to the Native community? If PPS truly values equity, if it truly seeks to honor and support Native students, then it must provide a stable, long-term home for Indian Education—one that is thoughtfully integrated into the district's plans, not an afterthought or a temporary fix.

We are not asking for special treatment; we are asking for the district to uphold its responsibility to Indigenous students, families, and communities. Displacing us yet again is not a solution—it is another setback. It is time for PPS to do better. We demand a permanent, dedicated space for Indian Education. Anything less is unacceptable. We are requesting this be read aloud at tonight's meeting as there was not sufficient time to have someone there after hearing of this decision.

Thank you,

Tamara D. Brown
Interim, IPC Chair