



## Frequently Asked Questions

### Senate Bill 13 Tribal History/Shared History

#### What is Senate Bill (SB) 13?

As a result of Senate Bill (SB) 13, the Oregon Department of Education in partnership with Oregon Tribes and Education Northwest is developing a curriculum relating to the Native American experience in Oregon.

- The curriculum will be made available to school districts and will provide professional development to teachers and administrators relating to the curriculum.
- The curriculum will be in grades 4, 8 and 10 to begin with in the 2019-20 school year. The goal is to work toward having a complete K-12 curriculum in the near future.
- Subject integration will include English/Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies and Health.
- The Tribal History/Shared History curriculum will cover the Native American experience in Oregon, including tribal history, sovereignty issues, culture, treaty rights, government, socioeconomic experiences and current events.
- It will be historically accurate, culturally relevant, community-based, contemporary and developmentally appropriate; and aligned with the academic content standards adopted under ORS 329.045.
- For the 2019-20 academic year, the ODE has 45 lessons available to districts in grades 4th, 8th, and 10th (in several different subject areas). Districts will be able to choose which 2 lessons per grade and 2 subject areas to implement for the 2019-20 academic year. Recommended implementation strategy:

GRADE	CONTENT/SUBJECT	CONTENT/SUBJECT
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Social Studies	PE/HEALTH
8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	English Language Arts	Math
10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Science	CHOICE

#### Why Senate Bill (SB) 13?

Senate Bill (SB) 13 is a historic investment in Oregon's education system. SB 13 is far more than a state law. It is an agreement between the State of Oregon, its government and the governments of each of the nine tribes that reside here in this state.

- These children that we are teaching this curriculum to will be tomorrow's leaders and will shape a brand-new future for the state of Oregon and its relationship with



each of our tribes.

- We benefit from multiple perspectives in our history. We can increase inclusion and make our education system better for all.
- This curriculum initiative supports ODE’s work towards equity for all students and a result of the holistic, collaborative effort of many in our state who knew the value and importance of our students learning about Oregon’s tribes and history.
- Native Americans have lived in Oregon since time immemorial. It is impossible to understand the state’s history—or U.S. history—without having some essential understandings of the rich culture and contributions of its Native people. For decades, however, that contribution has been minimized, mischaracterized, or completely left out of the state’s public-school curriculum.
- “When Governor Brown proposed SB13 during the 2017 legislative session and subsequently signed it into law, it was because she deeply values the preservation of tribal cultural integrity and believes that honoring the history of Oregon’s tribal communities is critically important to our state as a whole, and to future generations of students.” – Colt Gill, Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Senate Bill 13 is a long-awaited gift. Our charge as a state is to come together with ODE and the school districts of Oregon, so that students will have the opportunity to learn and grow from the history and contributions of tribes in Oregon, a new, inclusive version of Oregon’s diverse history.

### **What is the Essential Understandings Advisory Committee (EUAC)?**

The Essential Understandings Advisory Committee (EUAC) is a group made up of appointed representatives from Oregon’s nine federally recognized tribes. They along with the Oregon Department of Education and Education Northwest were tasked with developing the Essential Understandings of Native Americans in Oregon.

Partnering with our nine Tribal governments to develop the essential understandings began in May 2018; and in June 2019, Tribal representatives agreed to bring these essential understandings to tribal leadership for final approval.

The essential understandings will continue to inform the creation of lesson plans and replace decades of inaccurate stereotypical teaching of Native Americans in classrooms across Oregon.

### **What are the Essential Understandings?**

The Essential Understandings of Native Americans in Oregon are the conceptual framework and foundation for the statewide curriculum. They serve as the basis that informs the creation of lesson plans for the statewide curriculum. These Essential Understandings were developed by the Essential Understandings

Advisory Committee (EUAC). This group was made up of appointed representatives from Oregon’s nine federally recognized tribes along with the Oregon Department of Education and Education Northwest. Partnering with our nine Tribal governments to develop the essential understandings began in May 2018; and in June 2019, Tribal representatives agreed to bring these essential understandings to tribal leadership for final approval. The essential understandings will serve as a guide for professional development for the statewide curriculum and will assist in replacing decades of inaccurate stereotypical teaching of Native Americans in classrooms across Oregon.



**Who was involved in the Essential Understandings development process?**

The Essential Understandings Advisory Committee (made up of representatives from each of the nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon), the Oregon Department of Education and Education Northwest.

**Who is involved in the lesson plan development for the curriculum?**

The Oregon Department of Education hired Education Northwest to draft the lesson plans for 4<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade levels by utilizing information gathered from the Essential Understandings.

**Who approved the curriculum?**

This curriculum is supported by the Oregon Department of Education and a fulfillment of the Senate Bill 13 law.

**What is the difference between ODE’s statewide curriculum and each of the nine federally recognized tribes’ curriculum?**

The Oregon Department of Education curriculum is an overview of the Native American experience in Oregon. It covers the following topics: since time immemorial, sovereignty, history, tribal government, identity, lifeways, language, treaties with the United States, and genocide, federal policy and laws. It also has additional resources for Essential Understandings of Native Americans in Oregon such as acts and laws that have historic policies that impacted and continue to impact Native American identity.

Additionally, each federally recognized tribe in Oregon was given resources to develop their own “place based” curriculum that is specific to their tribe. Each tribe is unique in their government, identity, lifeways,



language, and relationship with the U.S. government and therefore requires a deeper understanding by educators and students in reviewing their individual, distinguishing qualities and history.

**How will districts receive curriculum materials?**

Both the Oregon Department of Education statewide curriculum and the individual tribes' curriculum will be made available on the Oregon Department of Education SB 13 Tribal History/Shared History webpage.

**When will the districts receive curriculum materials?**

Curriculum materials will be made available on the ODE website by September 2019 (date subject to change). To find out when materials are posted and other updates on the curriculum, please sign up for the email listserv on the ODE SB13 Tribal History/Shared History webpage.

**Where can I find the curriculum materials?**

Curriculum materials will be made available on the ODE website. To find out when materials are posted and other updates on the curriculum, please sign up for the email listserv on the ODE SB13 Tribal History/Shared History webpage.

**Will educators will be trained on the curriculum?**

Yes, there will be select onsite and online training opportunities available on the curriculum. The best way to ensure you are receiving the most up to date information on training opportunities is to sign up for the e-mail listserv on the ODE SB13 Tribal History/Shared History webpage.

**When will educators be trained on the curriculum?**

Training opportunities will be made available starting in October 2019 via onsite and online. To find out more information, sign up for the email listserv on the ODE SB13 Tribal History/Shared History website. You can also contact the ODE Indian Education staff at: 503-947-5810.

**Is the curriculum required or optional?**

This curriculum is required and a fulfillment of Senate Bill 13 signed into law in 2017.

**How will districts demonstrate curriculum implementation and effectiveness?**

An evaluation process will be completed by teachers and administrators at the end of the 2019-2020 school year that reflects participation in the curriculum. ODE will also be visiting select schools and creating focus groups of teachers to gather feedback on their participation in the curriculum as well as suggested revisions for the curriculum.

**Why is the focus on 4<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 10<sup>th</sup> grades?**

When tasked with developing a statewide curriculum for grades K-12, it proved unrealistic to accomplish implementation for all grade levels in two years. So, prioritization occurred in having the initial lessons developed for grade levels which had natural intersections.



For example, in fourth grade civics and government, multicultural studies, geography, history with a focus on Oregon history, historical knowledge, historical thinking, and social science analysis are all social sciences academic content standards covered – and so often indigenous peoples are either not accurately taught about or are completely left out of the lessons due to a lack of accessibility to information/lessons.

In eighth grade, civics and government as well as geography and multicultural studies are taught as a part of the social sciences standards. We thought it would be important to highlight sovereignty and the nine Tribal nations of Oregon within these areas.

Lastly, in tenth grade, civics and government, multicultural studies, geography, history, historical knowledge, historical thinking, and social science analysis are covered and connecting concepts about the nine Tribal nations of Oregon is directly related to all of these standards.

### **I've heard the terms unit, curriculum and lesson plans - can you clarify?**

The Oregon Department of Education is developing a statewide curriculum which will include lesson plans on since time immemorial, sovereignty, history, tribal government, identity, lifeways, language, treaties with the United States, and genocide, federal policy and laws. It also has additional resources for Essential Understandings of Native Americans in Oregon such as acts and laws that have historic policies that impacted and continue to impact Native American identity.

Additionally, each federally recognized tribe in Oregon was given resources to develop their own “place based” curriculum that is specific to their tribe. Each tribe is unique in their government, identity, lifeways, language, and history and therefore requires a deeper understanding by educators and students in reviewing their individual, distinguishing qualities. The individual tribes’ curriculum will have lesson plans available within them.

### **Did the Oregon federally recognized tribes receive funding?**

Yes, each of the nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon received funding from the Oregon Department of Education to develop their own “place based” curriculum that is specific to their tribe.

### **What is the timeline of the new statewide curriculum?**

The timeline and rollout process of the new curriculum will be delivered through the Communication Plan. This will be made available on the ODE Senate Bill 13 Tribal History/Shared History website. The curriculum including Essential Understandings and lesson plans will be available to teachers in the 2019-20 school year. Professional development opportunities will be offered at the beginning of the school year and continue to be made available after that. For updates on the curriculum and professional development opportunities, visit the ODE Senate Bill 13 Tribal History/Shared History website and/or join the e-list serv.

### **What does this new curriculum mean for Teacher Education Programs? How can we support them?**

This curriculum offers a new, inclusive perspective and provides an opportunity to educate pre-service teachers on Oregon tribes including their past and current presence, sovereignty, history, tribal government, identity, lifeways, language, treaties with the United States, and genocide, Federal policy and laws. Native Americans have lived in Oregon since time immemorial. It is impossible to understand Oregon or U.S. history,



geography or government without having some essential understandings of the rich culture and contributions of its Native people.

For decades, however, that contribution has been minimized, mischaracterized, or completely left out of the state's public-school curriculum. Support can come in the form of encouraging Teacher Education Program staff and pre-service teachers to attend professional development opportunities offered (either onsite or online) by ODE and/or the tribes. It can also come in the form of Teacher Education Program professors teaching/modeling the curriculum in the classroom and supporting pre-service teachers to learn and teach the curriculum in their field experiences and beyond graduation.

### **What is the background of the legislation? How did this bill come to be?**

Senate Bill 13 has been long awaited and the result of the collaborative effort and hard work of many in our state who valued the importance of students learning about Oregon Native Americans. For years teachers have requested information from ODE and other education entities on Oregon Native Americans that is historically accurate and culturally relevant. Up until this point, there was very limited classroom ready material available.

### **How are the tribes in Oregon engaged in this process?**

The Oregon Department of Education partnered with the nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon to develop the Essential Understandings of Oregon Native Americans. Each of the tribes appointed representatives to share their heart, expertise and knowledge in order to create concepts which will support educators as they teach information tribes wish to share. The initial process began in early May 2018 and on June 14, 2019 the Tribal representatives agreed to move the document forward for final approval to their Tribal leadership. Tribes are also in the process of developing their own place-based curriculum that will be specific to their tribe. This curriculum will be made available on the ODE Senate Bill 13 Tribal History/Shared History webpage.

### **Why is this a mandate?**

This curriculum was developed and now mandated because the Oregon Department of Education and leaders within the state deeply value equity in education as well as the need to increase inclusion and make our education system better for all. The preservation of tribal cultural integrity and honoring the history of Oregon's tribal communities is critically important to our state as a whole, and to future generations of students. Native Americans have lived in Oregon since time immemorial. It is impossible to understand Oregon or U.S. history, geography or government without having some essential understandings of the rich culture and contributions of its Native people. For decades, however, that contribution has been minimized, mischaracterized, or completely left out of the state's public-school curriculum.

### **Who is in charge of implementation of SB 13?**

The Oregon Department of Education Office of Indian Education will be taking a lead role in rolling out the implementation of Senate Bill 13 within Oregon schools. Professional development opportunities will be provided to teachers via online and onsite. For more information, visit the Communication Plan on the ODE's Senate Bill 13 Tribal History/Shared History website.



### **Will everyone have access to Tribe specific curriculum?**

Yes, each of the nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon are developing their own place-based curriculum that is specific to their tribe. This will be made available for all educators to access on the ODE Senate Bill 13 Tribal History/Shared History website.

### **Will the curricula/curriculum be available online?**

Yes, both the statewide Tribal History/Shared History curriculum and each of the tribe's place-based curriculum will be available on the ODE Tribal History/Shared History website for educators to access.

### **How do folks know which tribe to contact?**

ODE encourages schools to contact the tribe that is closest to their school. Each of the tribe's contact information will be made available on the ODE Senate Bill 13 Tribal History/Shared History website.

### **How will the state provide professional development to teachers?**

There will be select onsite training for teachers at locations throughout Oregon in the 2019-20 school year. In addition, online training opportunities will be available on the curriculum. The best way to ensure you are receiving the most up to date information on training opportunities is to sign up for the e-mail listserv on the ODE Senate Bill 13 Tribal History/Shared History webpage.

### **How should folks deal with pushback, especially in different power relationships?**

In dealing with pushback it is important to listen respectfully, communicate transparently and keep the focus on the purpose and intent of the curriculum as well as the positive outcome that is expected to be. Educators should also be encouraged to seek out support from their administrators and the Oregon Department of Education. Change can be difficult, but in this area is much needed. If parents, students or others have concerns, it is important to gather facts. Their feedback is appreciated and can be reported to the Oregon Department of Education.

### **How do we help districts prioritize this?**

In helping districts prioritize the new curriculum it is important to respectfully communicate the purpose and intent of the curriculum, the endorsement that is around the curriculum from the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) and Oregon tribes, as well as the new mandate in place from the signing of Senate Bill 13 into law. If you need more support, please contact ODE.

### **How do we progress and share progress?**

Progress can take place by teaching the lesson plans provided in the new curriculum. The first year will be the most difficult as it is the first time to implement the new curriculum. Through time and appropriate changes/feedback it can be refined to meet desired classroom effectiveness. It is important to seek out the professional development opportunities that will be provided on the new curriculum through ODE. If you need more support please contact the ODE Indian Education staff and/or reach out to the Tribal Cultural/Education department closest to you. Progress can be shared by joining the teacher focus group on the curriculum within ODE and/or by contacting the ODE Indian Education staff.





### **Are we including instructional strategies for carrying out lesson plans?**

Instructional strategies will be discussed as a part of the professional development opportunities that will be offered to educators via onsite and online through the ODE Senate Bill 13 Tribal History/Shared History website. There will be also be additional instructional strategies developed over time as teacher focus groups on the curriculum convene throughout the 2019-20 school year.

### **Will curriculum directors and teachers convene/have support? Do we look to ESD's for help here?**

Curriculum directors and teachers should be encouraged to participate in professional development opportunities offered through ODE on the new curriculum via onsite and online through the ODE Senate Bill 13 Tribal History/Shared History website. They can also join the teacher focus groups that will convene throughout the 2019-20 school year and seek out the ODE Indian Education staff for further support.

### **What does this mean for teachers and parents?**

The process of implementing a new curriculum in the classroom can be a challenge, but in this case one well worth doing. It is important to provide patience and continued support to teachers as they teach the new lessons. The curriculum is also new to parents, so it is important to communicate with transparency about the reasons for the new curriculum as well as the expected benefits.

### **What are the benefits of this for all Oregonians?**

The new statewide curriculum is a historic investment in Oregon's education system. Senate Bill 13 is far more than a state law. It is an agreement between the State of Oregon, its government and the governments of each of the nine tribes that reside here in this state. These children that we are teaching this curriculum to will be tomorrow's leaders and will shape a brand-new future for the state of Oregon and its relationship with each of our tribes. We benefit from multiple perspectives in our history. We can increase inclusion and make our education system better for all. Native Americans have lived in Oregon since time immemorial. It is impossible to understand the state's history or U.S. history without having some essential understandings of the rich culture and contributions of its Native people. For decades, however, that contribution has been minimized, mischaracterized, or completely left out of the state's public-school curriculum. Our charge as a state is to come together with ODE and the school districts of Oregon, so that students will have the opportunity to learn and grow from the history and contributions of tribes in Oregon, a new, inclusive version of Oregon's diverse history.

### **Will this new curriculum align with common core and Oregon content standards?**

Yes, each of the lessons in the curriculum were drafted and aligned with the common core and Oregon content standards.

### **What can I do to support this initiative?**

Support for this initiative can be provided by attending professional development opportunities offered through ODE and encouraging districts in their efforts to implement the curriculum in the 2019-20 school year and beyond. For teachers, simply teaching the lesson plans and providing feedback to ODE will be a great form of support. Teachers can also join the teacher focus groups at ODE that will convene in the 2019-20





school year and look to their buildings and districts for other teachers that are going through the same process of implementing the new curriculum realizing that they are all in this together with positive outcomes in mind.

### **Why is this focused on Indigenous people and tribes; don't we already have ethnic studies?**

The new statewide curriculum is a historic investment in Oregon's education system. Senate Bill 13 is far more than a state law. It is an agreement between the State of Oregon, its government and the governments of each of the nine tribes that reside here in this state. Tribes share a unique, sovereign status within the state. These children that we are teaching this curriculum to will be tomorrow's leaders and will shape a brand-new future for the state of Oregon and its relationship with each of our tribes. We benefit from multiple perspectives in our history. We can increase inclusion and make our education system better for all. Native Americans have lived in Oregon since time immemorial. It is impossible to understand the state's history or U.S. history without having some essential understandings of the rich culture and contributions of its Native people. For decades, however, that contribution has been minimized, mischaracterized, or completely left out of the state's public-school curriculum. Our charge as a state is to come together with ODE and the school districts of Oregon, so that students will have the opportunity to learn and grow from the history and contributions of tribes in Oregon, a new, inclusive version of Oregon's diverse history.

### **If a school has curriculum in place already, can they use it or do they have to toss it?**

If a similar curriculum is already in place, this will give teachers the opportunity to move things around and make adjustments that don't feel overwhelming. For example, teachers can swap out older lessons partially or in their entirety with pieces of the new curriculum.

### **What are the learning outcomes for students?**

Each lesson plan within the curriculum has its own lesson outcomes. The overall greater outcome is a historic investment in Oregon's education system. Senate Bill 13 is far more than a state law. It is an agreement between the State of Oregon, its government and the governments of each of the nine tribes that reside here in this state. Tribes share a unique, sovereign status within the state. These children that we are teaching this curriculum to will be tomorrow's leaders and will shape a brand-new future for the state of Oregon and its relationship with each of our tribes. We benefit from multiple perspectives in our history. We can increase inclusion and make our education system better for all. Native Americans have lived in Oregon since time immemorial. It is impossible to understand the state's history or U.S. history without having some essential understandings of the rich culture and contributions of its Native people. For decades, however, that contribution has been minimized, mischaracterized, or completely left out of the state's public-school curriculum. Our charge as a state is to come together with ODE and the school districts of Oregon, so that students will have the opportunity to learn and grow from the history and contributions of tribes in Oregon, a new, inclusive version of Oregon's diverse history.

### **Is there a timeline for implementation of the curriculum and is it the same across the state or do some districts have more/less time than others to implement?**



All schools will have the opportunity to implement the new curriculum when it is introduced in the 2019-20 school year. However, each district may have different existing curriculum in place and therefore may have different timelines in implementing the new curriculum in its entirety.

### **Is there money for Professional Development?**

ODE will be providing professional development at select sites and online throughout the 2019-20 school year and beyond at no charge to the district(s). The online professional development opportunities will be made available through the ODE Senate Bill 13 Tribal History/Shared History website and by signing up for our e-listserv.

### **What grades are affected?**

The statewide curriculum that will be released in the 2019-20 school year is designed for grades 4, 8 and 10. However, there is information within the curriculum that can be utilized and implemented at other grade levels. The plan is to have a complete K-12 curriculum offered in the future.

### **Since this is mandatory, who monitors accountability/consensus?**

The ODE will be gathering feedback from districts through a pre/post assessment and evaluation process in the 2019-20 school year. Teachers and district staff are encouraged to contact ODE for support in implementing the curriculum. ODE staff will be visiting as many schools as is feasibly possible to provide support on the curriculum implementation process as well. Administrators are highly encouraged to provide positive support to teachers in their buildings/districts for the new curriculum.

### **Is the curriculum statewide?**

Yes, the new curriculum is statewide.

### **How does Title VI meet PD needs? How does Title VI fit into SB13 curriculum/PDs?**

The ODE encourages Title VI staff to participate in the professional development opportunities that will be offered via onsite and online. Title VI staff can also support the SB 13 Tribal History/Shared History curriculum by teaching the curriculum and communicating information available on the curriculum as well as encouraging district/building staff to participate in professional development opportunities.

### **Where are we in the process/what is the timeline?**

A communication plan of Senate Bill 13 including a timeline for roll-out/implementation will be made available on the ODE Tribal History/Shared History website. The curriculum will be made available online for educators to access in the 2019-20 school year.

### **Who will be responsible for updating the website?**

The ODE Information Technology, Communications and Indian Education Team will take on the role of continually updating the Senate Bill 13 Tribal History/Shared History website to ensure the most up to date



information on the new statewide curriculum as well as professional development opportunities are made available to educators.

### **What tribes will the new curriculum be about?**

The new statewide curriculum will cover information about the nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon. These include the Burns Paiute Tribe, Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw, The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Coquille Indian Tribe, Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, and Klamath Tribes.

### **How is the Tribal History/Shared History curriculum aligned, supported, and/or infused with the Ethnic Studies Standards?**

The 2018 Social Science Standards and the proposed Ethnic Studies Standards call on students to understand and investigate the local, state, and North American history of Native Peoples. The lessons created by SB13 are intended to support teaching to the standards utilizing the specific lens provided by the Essential Understandings. As students gain more complex knowledge of Tribal History and culture it becomes possible to connect to our Shared History.