FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION 2014-08:

RESOLUTION HONORING ELIZABETH PERATROVICH DAY

WHEREAS, historically, Alaska Natives faced overt discrimination in housing, theaters, hotels, restaurants, and public facilities; and

WHEREAS, civil rights activist Elizabeth Peratrovich, an Alaska Native of Tlingit heritage, was a leader in the civil rights movement in Alaska and worked for equal rights and freedoms for all Alaskans; and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth Peratrovich 's courage, vision and impassioned testimonies inspired the Alaska Territorial Legislature to pass a resolution entitled "an Act to provide for full and equal accommodations, facilities, and privileges to all citizens in places of public accommodations within the jurisdiction of the Territory of Alaska"; and

WHEREAS, when Governor Ernest Gruening signed the Anti-Discrimination Act of 1945 into law on February 16, 1945, it was the first anti-discrimination bill passed in Alaska and occurred two decades prior to the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, the Alaska State Legislature designated each February 16 as the annual Elizabeth Peratrovich Day in honor of her committed pursuit to overcoming discrimination in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of Alaska proclaimed February 16, 2013, as Elizabeth Peratrovich Day in Alaska and asked all Alaskans to recognize and reflect upon the great contributions she made to our state and its people;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Fairbanks North Star Borough Board of Education declares February 16, 2014 as Elizabeth Peratrovich Day, a recognition to occur annually; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Fairbanks North Star Borough Board of Education challenges each school in the district to honor the legacy of Elizabeth Peratrovich by studying her life and commitment to the ideals of civil rights and nondiscrimination.

PASSED AND APPROVED: November 19, 2013

Heidi Haas, President Board of Education

ATTEST:

Sharon Tuttle

Executive Assistant to the Board

