

**FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**RESOLUTION 2016-10:**

**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<sup>th</sup> as the annual Elizabeth Peratrovich Day in honor of her committed pursuit to overcoming discrimination in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, last year Alaska's governor proclaimed February 16, 2015, as Elizabeth Peratrovich Day in Alaska and encouraged all Alaskans to recognize and reflect upon the tremendous contributions Elizabeth Peratrovich made to Alaska and her people;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Fairbanks North Star Borough Board of Education declares February 16, 2016, as Elizabeth Peratrovich Day, a recognition to occur annually, and encourages each teacher in each school in the district to recognize and honor the legacy of Elizabeth Peratrovich by studying her life and commitment to the ideals of civil rights and nondiscrimination with performances, readings, guest speakers, displays, lessons, and lectures on an ongoing basis.

Passed and Approved: January 19, 2016

*Heidi Haas*

Heidi Haas, President  
Board of Education

ATTEST:

*Sharon Tuttle*

Sharon Tuttle  
Executive Assistant to the Board

