

June 5, 2019

Dear Ms. Sense-Wilson,

We would like to thank you for the work that Urban Native Education Alliance has been doing to support Native youth and families in the Seattle area. Creating spaces that are welcoming and culturally responsive to all young people is important, and we recognize the work your organization does to honor the cultural background, experiences, and voices of students.

The Seattle Public Schools Community Alignment Initiative provides a framework and accompanying processes for how schools and community-based organizations work together to support the academic and social emotional growth and well-being of children and youth. Alignment occurs when schools and community programs form an intentional partnership focused on student success, aligned to the school's and the District's strategic plans. The benefits received by a school community in an aligned partnership allow Seattle Public Schools to provide community-based organizations long-term use of space.

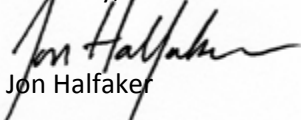
Over the course of this year we have seen repeated evidence that the work is not being done in a way that is true to the partnership spirit of the Alignment Initiative nor is it in compliance with its accompanying requirements and processes. For this reason, we will no longer be able to offer UNEA space in the Robert Eagle Staff/Licton Springs campus in a partnership agreement.

Any partner operating under the Alignment Initiative must complete an Alignment Partnership Packet with the school principal or principal designee, including a narrative describing how they will align their work to school goals to support positive student outcomes. Although there have been repeated requests for information from UNEA such as the list of students attending the program, sample content/curriculum, and an overall plan for partnering with the school, this information has not been shared with either district or school staff. We do not have evidence that students from the Robert Eagle Staff/Licton Springs campus are being served regularly by the program. Further, there has been no effort or attempt to communicate about aligning or reinforcing outcomes for students.

This puts us far out of compliance with board policies (Board Policy 4265) and procedures (Superintendent Procedure 4265) that govern how and when we offer space to non-district entities.

Again, we value the work that UNEA does, but it's become clear that this relationship is not operating as a partnership in an aligned fashion, nor does there appear to be interest in moving in that direction. Therefore, it cannot continue as a school-based partnership. If UNEA is interested in renting space through the building rental process (Board Policies 4260 and 4265), you can find relevant information here: <https://www.seattleschools.org/cms/one.aspx?pageId=8850600>. You can also reach out to the Community Partnerships team at CommunityPartnerships@seattleschools.org. We ask that you work directly with the school in the next three weeks to develop a plan for removal of equipment and supplies currently stored in the gym space by August 15, 2019.

Sincerely,



Jon Halfaker

Director of Schools

Seattle Public Schools

CC: Denis Juneau, Superintendent

Diane DeBacker, Chief Academic Officer

Dr. Mike Starosky, Executive Director of Schools

James Bush, Director of Family and Community Partnerships

Ronald Boy, Senior Assistant General Council