

Shrewsbury School Committee
100 Maple Ave
Shrewsbury, MA 01545

Dear School Committee members,

As we look ahead to the 2021-2022 school year, we respectfully ask the Committee to consider replacing Columbus Day with Indigineous Peoples' Day on the official Shrewsbury Public School Calendar.

Last year, the School Committee stated that it is not within the authority of a School Committee to make such a change, however several School Committees across the State have already done so and many others are in the process of doing so.

There are multiple ways that this would benefit Shrewsbury families.

First, it would signal a commitment to teaching our history in a more inclusive and accurate way and to honoring the current and continued contributions of Indigineous Peoples to our community, nation, and the Americas. This is not only an urgent shift for the few Indigineous students we have in our district, but a beneficial one for Shrewsbury at large in our efforts towards creating a more just and inclusive community.

Second, the district is in ongoing discussions about equity and anti-racism and it is clear that heavy investments need to be made on these fronts . Adding Indigenous Peoples' Day to the district calendar takes minimal administrative labor, is free of cost, and will concretely demonstrate the district's commitment to these efforts.

Finally, this change will signal to the State legislature that Shrewsbury and communities like ours are ready to see this change at the State level. We hope this is something the School Committee is willing to discuss and thank you in advance for your reconsideration.

Sincerely,

Sanam Zaer, SPS Parent
Bridgette Hylton, SPS Alum
Elizabeth Hylton, SPS Alum

Carlos Garcia, SPS Alum
Nathan Petrangelo, SPS Alum
Annette Shine, SPS Parent
Bill Shine, SPS Parent
Jatnna Jordan, SPS Parent
Caitlyn Burke, SPS Alum
Christina Zarobe, SPS Parent
Gene Hurdle, SPS Parent
Grace Hurdle, SPS Student
Gabriel Hurdle, SPS Student
Noor Ali, SPS Parent
Andrea Finnegan, SPS Parent
Lisanne D'Errico, SPS Alum
Colleen Corbett, SPS Parent
Sreeanvitha Emani, SPS Alum
Robbin Miller, Shrewsbury Resident
Phillip Blumberg, Shrewsbury Resident
Alison Smith, SPS Parent
Nanci Coelho, SPS Alum & Parent
Hannah Hopkins, SPS Alum, SPS Employee
Gabriel Hopkins, SPS Employee
Lauren Blumberg, Shrewsbury resident
Peter C. Mulcahy, SPS Alum
Jamie Brito, SPS Parent
John Chenier, SPS Parent
Kathy Bi, SPS Alum
Dhanya Kumar, SPS Alum
Brandy Litt, SPS Parent
Kathleen Goodman, Shrewsbury resident
Carissa Ford, Shrewsbury resident
Cynthia Kerekon, SPS Parent
William P. Gooley, SPS Parent
Shima Khan, SPS Parent
Fakhera Merchant, SPS Parent
Muneeba Syed, SPS Alum
Ashley Wells, SPS Alum
Diana Bowley, SPS Parent

Michelle Conlin, SPS Parent
Karen Quintana, Shrewsbury resident
Rebecca Parrish, Shrewsbury resident
Kelly Warren, SPS Parent
Sarah Jane Frankel, SPS Parent
Cara Lyons, SPS Parent
Lisa Tupper, SPS Parent
Ben Lyons, SPS Parent
Amanda Normandin, SPS Parent
Corrie Torres, SPS Parent
Ronald Rosen, SPS Parent
Preeti Kumble, SPS Parent
Jayanth Kumble, SPS Parent
Sadia Kazimi, SPS Parent
Rolan Dsouza, Shrewsbury resident
Ekta Pathak, Shrewsbury resident
Vivek Bhartiya, Shrewsbury resident
Tanay Bhatt, Shrewsbury resident
Ambrose Nikale, Shrewsbury resident
Melissa Hollenback, SPS Parent
Christopher Pond, SPS Parent
Stephenie Chaudoir, Shrewsbury resident
Gillian Townsend, SPS Parent
David Lambert, SPS Parent
Kirsten Holmes, Shrewsbury resident
Christopher Holmes, Shrewsbury resident
Debbie Santos, SPS Parent
MariaClara Macedo-Wood, SPS Parent
Hala Saleh, SPS Parent and Employee
Diana Karas, SPS Parent
Karen Troy, SPS Parent
Carrick O'Brien, Shrewsbury resident
Leah Bell, SPS Alum
Karen Curtis, SPS Alum and Parent
Rani Alexander, SPS Parent
Hillary King, SPS Parent
Margaret Trombley, SPS Parent

April Prince, SPS Parent
Heather Sabourin, Shrewsbury resident
Laura Townsend, SPS Alum
Gloria Patwari, SPS Parent
Emily O'Brien, SPS Parent
Renjitha Nair, SPS Parent
Julie Visardi-Smalley, SPS Parent
Amber Ryan, Shrewsbury resident
Keridan Doyle, SPS Parent
Litza Rivera, SPS Parent and Employee
Lavanya Kartik, SPS Parent
Kalpana Khanal, SPS Parent
Janice Machado, SPS Parent
Lauren Clark, Shrewsbury resident
Laura McCarthy-HA, Shrewsbury Parent
Ashleigh Jones, Shrewsbury resident
Sarah Eck, SPS Alum and Parent
Erin Howard, SPS Parent
Hari Kumar, SPS Alum
Adnan Malik, SPS Parent
Allison Freeburn, Shrewsbury resident
Karen Fine, SPS Parent
Suzanne Harlow, SPS alum
Shirley Gonzalez, SPS Parent
Jessican Kilham, Shrewsbury resident
Kathy Musiak, SPS Parent
Victoria Bezoeni, SPS Alum
Roop Jyot Kaur, SPS Parent
Nora Perry, SPS Parent
Tracey Ruiz, Works with SPS children
Brendan Mahan, SPS Parent
Samantha Emberley, SPS Alum
Lynn Jolicoeur, SPS Parent
Diana Parry-Cruwys, SPS Parent
KM Hughes, SPS Parent
Melissa McKenna, SPS Parent
Judith Damle, SPS Parent

Meher Gandhi, SPS Alum
Saket Damle, SPS student
Navid Zaer, SPS Parent
Barbara Joda, SPS Parent
Esther Xol Chub, SPS Student
Linda Stockhaus, SPS Parent
Audrena Agurkis, Shrewsbury resident
Michelle Chalmers, Shrewsbury resident
Lovell Chalmers, Shrewsbury resident
Marcus Chalmers, Shrewsbury resident
Derek Chalmers, Shrewsbury resident
Altaf Ahmed, SPS Parent
David Prince, SPS Parent
William Prince, SPS Student
Charlie Prince, SPS Student
Emma Aulenback, SPS Alum
Melissa Pratt, SPS Parent
Sarah Paterson, SPS Parent
Yusra Khan, SPS Employee
Caroline Demac, SPS Alum
Erin Blette, SPS Alum
Ayesha Osmany, SPS Parent
Kelly Joseph, Shrewsbury resident
Sameena Kausar, SPS Parent
Jennie Fishman, Shrewsbury resident
Altaf Ahmed, SPS Parent
Elizabeth McGregor, SPS Parent
Jesse Colman, SPS Alum
Isabelle Elsasser, Shrewsbury resident
Kimberly Doheny, SPS Alum and Parent
Caroline MCQyade, SPS Alum
Richard Parkes, SPS Alum
Louise Garone, Shrewsbury resident
Royal Wetherbee, SPS Parent
Chandni Sadozai, Shrewsbury resident
Kendall Bortle, SPS Alum
Jin Jin Heipler, SPS Alum

Kelly Lawlor, SPS Employee
Kelsey Carvalho, SPS Alum
Ellen Sweeney, SPS Alum
Naureen Mowla, Shrewsbury resident
Caleigh Snyder, SPS Alum
Michael Lanotte, SPS Alum
Sheila Sawyer, SPS Alum
Leanna Rybacki, SPS Alum
Alexandra Lekas, SPS Alum
Olivia Juaire, SPS Alum
Pratibha Ranganna, SPS Parent
Thomas Hugh O'Neill, SPS Alum
Julia Keenan, SPS Alum
David Lambert, SPS Parent
Joanne Kledaras, Shrewsbury resident
Barbara Jorda, Shrewsbury parent
Janice Machado, Shrewsbury resident