



# PRESS RELEASE

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE COLVILLE RESERVATION

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## **Paschal Sherman Indian School Named “School of Distinction”**

(Nespelem, WA) — The Paschal Sherman Indian School (PSIS) has been named a “School of Distinction” by Cognia, a global nonprofit school improvement organization. Out of more than 1,100 eligible institutions reviewed by Cognia, only 25 schools and 8 systems were honored. The honor is bestowed upon institutions that demonstrate evidence of a growth in learning by students, a healthy culture for learning, engaging and high-quality instructional environments, and effective leadership for learning.

Additionally, the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation just entered into a tribal/state compact with the Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction. The compact provides for funding to flow directly to PSIS. In the past, funding went through an agreement between a state school district and a tribal school.

“PSIS is to be commended for earning the designation as a School of Distinction,” said Dr. Mark A. Elgart, president and CEO of Cognia. “Cognia Accreditation is already a mark of school quality recognized around the world. Being named a School of Distinction further acknowledges the demonstrated commitment to education quality and a mindset of continuous improvement PSIS has for its learners.”

The Chairman of the Colville Confederated Tribes, Jarred-Michael Erickson, said, “The Colville Tribes values great educational opportunities for our children. We are proud of the recognition that Paschal Sherman school has earned. We also appreciate the recent compact with the State of Washington, which we expect will lead to additional funding and support for academic achievements and experiences.”

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About the Colville Tribes:

Today, more than 9,284 descendants of 12 aboriginal tribes of Indians are enrolled in the Confederated Tribes of the Colville. The twelve tribes which compose the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation include: ščəlámxəx<sup>w</sup> (deep water) or Chelan; walwáma (Wallowa people) or Chief Joseph Band of Nez Perce; sǰ<sup>w</sup>y?iłp (sharp pointed trees) or Colville; šntiyátk<sup>w</sup>əx<sup>w</sup> (grass in the water) or Entiat; snšáyekst (speckled fish) or Lakes; mətx<sup>w</sup>u (blunt hills around a valley) or Methow; škwáxčənəx<sup>w</sup> (people living on the bank) or Moses-Columbia; nspilm (prairie) or Nespelem; uknaqin (seeing over the top) or Okanogan; palúšpam (people from Palouse) or Palus; sənpš<sup>w</sup>ilx (grey mist as far as one can see) or San Poil, and šnpəšq<sup>w</sup>áwsəx<sup>w</sup> (people in between) or Wenatchi.