

TULALIP ACADEMY



Newsletter

JUNE 2026

DREAMS OF OUR ANCESTORS:

Building the Tulalip Academy



For generations,

Tulalip leaders, elders, families, and educators have carried a dream: a school where children can excel academically while growing strong in their identity, language, culture, and community.

Our vision is to prepare students for success in school, careers, and life while honoring the knowledge, values, and traditions that have sustained the Tulalip people for generations.

This is more than the creation of a new school. It is an investment in future generations. It is an opportunity to help children know where they come from, understand who they are, and develop the skills and confidence to shape the future.

As we often say, we are working to fulfill the dreams of our ancestors while creating opportunities for generations yet to come.

TULALIP ACADEMY

IS BEING BUILT ON

A SIMPLE BUT

POWERFUL BELIEF:

Students thrive when education strengthens who they are rather than asking them to leave part of themselves behind.

THE ROAD TO OPENING DAY: Completed

- Community visioning and input
- Educational design and learning model
- School mission, values, and pathways
- Compact school application submitted
- Facility planning initiated
- OSPI Review of Application Completed

Happening Now

- Sign-off on MOU between State Superintendent and Tulalip BOD
- Governance and board development
- Budget and operational planning
- Facility assessment and modernization planning

Coming Next

- School leader recruitment
- Facility improvements
- Staff recruitment
- Student enrollment planning
- Community engagement activities

Opening Day

AUGUST 2027

With approximately 15 months remaining before opening, planning is steadily moving from design to implementation.

The *vision* is becoming
REALITY



What Makes Tulalip Academy **DIFFERENT?**

Across months of planning, community conversations, and educational design work, several themes have consistently emerged.

LANGUAGE CONNECTS GENERATIONS

Language carries history, values, relationships, and ways of understanding the world. Students will have opportunities to strengthen connections to heritage, family, community, and future generations through language learning and cultural experiences.

ELDERS ARE TEACHERS

Elders are among the most important educators in our community. Their stories, wisdom, experiences, and cultural knowledge help students develop respect, responsibility, identity, and a sense of belonging.

LEARNING THROUGH VALUES

Students will learn academic skills while also learning how to live well in a community. Respect, responsibility, stewardship, humility, service, and care for others will be woven throughout school life.

CULTURE EVERY DAY

Culture is not limited to special events or occasional lessons. It is reflected in daily routines, relationships, celebrations, learning experiences, and community connections. Our goal is for students to experience culture as a living part of everyday life.

READY FOR TWO WORLDS

Tulalip Academy seeks to prepare students to thrive in a variety of settings. Students will be equipped with strong academic skills while also developing a deep understanding of their culture, community, and responsibilities as future leaders. We want graduates who are confident in who they are, where they come from, and where they are going.



Looking for an Exceptional School Leader

As planning continues, one of the most important decisions ahead is selecting the Academy's founding school leader.

WE ARE SEEKING A LEADER WHO:

- Believes deeply in the potential of every child
- Builds strong relationships with students, families, staff, and community members
- Honors and supports Native culture, language, and traditions
- Has a proven record of improving student learning
- Develops strong teams and future leaders
- Leads with humility, courage, and integrity
- Understands that schools succeed when they work in partnership with families and the community

The founding leader will play a critical role in bringing the Academy's vision to life and helping create a school that reflects the hopes and aspirations of the Tulalip community.

More information about the leadership search will be shared in future newsletters.



LEARN MORE AT:

[tulaliptribes-nsn.gov/Education/
TulalipAcademyOfExcellence](http://tulaliptribes-nsn.gov/Education/TulalipAcademyOfExcellence)

