



MT. DIABLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD
RESOLUTION 23/24-32
In Recognition of Ed Roberts Day

WHEREAS, Edward Verne Roberts was born January 23, 1939 and as an adolescent in 1953 he acquired polio and spent vast expanses of time in an iron lung; and

WHEREAS, Roberts' career as an advocate began when a high school administrator threatened to deny him a diploma because he had not completed driver's education and physical education; and

WHEREAS, In 1963 Roberts was admitted to the University of California of Berkely where he became the first student with a severe physical disability to attend UC Berkeley; and

WHEREAS, His search for housing at the university met resistance and the Director of the campus hospital offered Roberts a room in an empty wing, which Roberts accepted on the condition that it was considered a dormitory space which later he was joined by other students and were referred to as the "Rolling Quads; and

WHEREAS, At UC Berkeley the Rolling Quads began advocating for improved accessibility options, eventually creating the first student-led disability services program at a university in the Nation; and

WHEREAS, Roberts assumed leadership of the Center for Independent Living, Berkely and guided its development as a model for disability advocacy and self-help services across the Nation and around the world; and

WHEREAS, In 1975 Roberts was appointed the Director of the California Department of Rehabilitation and in 1983 Roberts co-founded the World Institute on Disability, an organization committed to eliminating barriers to full social integration for persons with disabilities; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the MDUSD Board of Education supports the designation of an "Ed Roberts Day" and acknowledges the accomplishments of Ed Roberts in helping reduce barriers, increase access, and improve lives for persons with disabilities.

AYES: NOES: ABSENCES: ABSTENTIONS:

Keisha Nzewi, Board Member

Erin McFerrin, Board Member

Cherise Khaund, Board Member

Debra Mason, Board Member

Linda Mayo, Board Member

Dr. Adam Clark, Superintendent

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Adopted at the meeting of the MDUSD Governing Board of Education on 12/13/2023
