

MT. DIABLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD RESOLUTION
20/21-68

In Recognition of May as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

WHEREAS, The U.S. Census Bureau reports over 23 distinct Asian American and over 19 distinct NHPI (Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander) ethnic groups, including Asian Indian, Bengali, Burmese, Cambodian, Chinese, Filipino, Guamanian, Hawaiian, Hmong, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Lao, Malayan, Okinawan, Pakistani, Samoan, Thai, Vietnamese, and others; and

WHEREAS, in Mount Diablo Unified School District (MDUSD), 12.8% (2020) of the student population are identified as Asian, Filipino, or Pacific Islander, the 3rd highest demographic, yet studies have found that the academic needs of Asian American and Pacific Islander students are frequently overlooked; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are the fastest-growing racial groups in California, and they make up close to 15% of California's resident population; and

WHEREAS, understanding Asian and Pacific Islander history in our state and nation is an important part of celebrating Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, in the earliest years, tens of thousands of Asian American and Pacific Islander Gold Rush pioneers, coal miners, transcontinental railroad builders, as well as farm and orchard laborers, were subject to unjust working conditions, prejudice, and discrimination; and

WHEREAS, the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 lifted immigration restrictions, formalized three major categories of immigration that remain the fundamental basis of our immigration system today—family reunification, professional skills, and refugee provisions - and resulted in a vast majority of AAPIs' arrival to California; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge Asian American and Pacific Islanders like the Tape family, labor organizer Larry Itliong, civil rights activist Yury Kochiyama, aeronautical engineer Kalpna Chawla, MLB great Ichiro Suzuki, congresswoman Patsy Matsu Takemoto Mink, politician Dalip Singh and vice president Kamala Harris, and countless others for their contributions to government, industry and commerce, agriculture, sports, science, literature, and the arts; and

WHEREAS, over 2 million Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are working on the frontlines of this COVID-19 pandemic in health care, law enforcement, first responders, transportation, supermarkets, and other service industries; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Board of the Mount Diablo Unified School District that the month of May is designated as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month; and calls on all schools to commemorate this occasion accordingly with appropriate instructional materials, discussions, presentations and projects; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this executed Resolution be distributed to all schools within MDUSD.

AYES: NOES: ABSENCES: ABSTENTIONS:

Cherise Khaund, Board President

Debra Mason, Board Vice President

Linda Mayo, Board Member

Erin McFerrin, Board Member

Keisha Nzewi, Board Member

Dr. Adam Clark, Superintendent

Resolution 20/21-68

Adopted at the meeting of the MDUSD Governing Board of Education on 05/12/2021
