



MT. DIABLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD
RESOLUTION 23/24-58
In Recognition of Arab American Heritage Month

WHEREAS for over a century, Arab Americans have been making valuable contributions to virtually every aspect of American society, including medicine, law, business, science and technology, government, literature, arts and entertainment, and in positions of leadership at all levels; and

WHEREAS since migrating to the United States, men and women of Arab descent have shared their rich culture and traditions with neighbors and friends, while also setting fine examples of model citizens and public servants; and

WHEREAS Arab migrants to the United States brought with them their resilient family values, strong work ethic, dedication to education, and diversity in faith and creed, strengthening the fabric of our diverse nation; and

WHEREAS California is home to more immigrants than any other state. Our state is fortunate to have the largest Arab-American population in the country, with thriving communities in the Bay Area and Southern California. The more than 715,000 Californians of Arab descent trace their heritage across the Middle East and North Africa, with unique traditions and histories;

WHEREAS the history of Arab Americans in American life often remains neglected or defaced by misunderstanding, bigotry, and anti-Arab hate in the form of crimes and speech; and

WHEREAS issues affecting Arab Americans, such as civil rights abuses, harmful stereotyping, harassment, and bullying, must be combated in the forms of education and awareness; and

WHEREAS there is a need for public education, awareness, and policies that are culturally competent when describing, discussing, or addressing the impacts of being Arab American in all aspects of American society, including discourse and policy; and

WHEREAS Mt. Diablo Unified School District is proud to serve and employ Arab American students, parents and employees; and

WHEREAS we seek to join with the State Department of the United States of America and the State of California in this proclamation with due recognition and honor,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mt. Diablo Unified School District celebrates the countless past, present and future contributions of Arab Americans to American society and the

State of California, recognizing and honoring the month of April 2023 to be Arab American Heritage Month; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mt. Diablo Unified School District board of Education hereby

- (1) encourages staff to review the district's [equity policy](#) and review cultural literacy resources; and
- (2) urges the district to observe Arab American Heritage Month with appropriate programs and activities that celebrate the contributions of Arab Americans to the United States.

AYES: NOES: ABSENCES: ABSTENTIONS:

Erin McFerrin, Board President

Linda Mayo, Board Vice President

Cherise Khaund, Board Member

Debra Mason, Board Member

Keisha Nzewi, Board Member

Dr. Adam Clark, Superintendent

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Adopted at the meeting of the MDUSD Governing Board of Education on 3/27/2024
