

TIGARD-TUALATIN SCHOOL DISTRICT PROCLAMATION

A Proclamation of the Tigard-Tualatin School Board of Directors Proclaiming April 2024
Arab American Heritage Month

Whereas for over a century, Arab Americans have been making valuable contributions to virtually every aspect of American society—in medicine, law, business, technology, civic engagement, government, military service and culture; and

Whereas Victor George Atiyeh, Oregon's 32nd Governor from 1979 to 1987, was the first Arab American governor in United States history; and

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

Whereas Arab Americans have brought with them their resilient family values, strong work ethic, dedication to education, and diversity in faith and creed that has added strength to our democracy; and

Whereas Arab Americans have enriched our society by sharing in the entrepreneurial American spirit that makes our nation free and prosperous; and

Whereas Arab Americans in the United States continue to be neglected or defaced by misconceptions, bigotry, and anti-Arab hate in the forms of crimes and speech; and

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

Whereas Arab Americans have added to the strength and diversity of our Tigard-Tualatin community and beyond; and

Whereas Tigard-Tualatin students have protections in Board policy and affinity spaces that welcome and encourage their contributions; and

Whereas Arab Americans join all community members in the desire to see a peaceful and inclusive society, where every individual has equitable opportunities and feels safe; and

Whereas April is celebrated as National Arab American Heritage Month;

Therefore, let it be resolved that the Tigard-Tualatin School Board hereby proclaims April 2024 NATIONAL ARAB AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH and encourage all staff, students, and community members to join in this observance.

DATED this 8th day of April, 2024.

ATTEST:



Dr. Sue Rieke-Smith, Superintendent



Tristan Irvin, Chair