

**SAN MATEO UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER 1-30, 2023
AS NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH**

WHEREAS, National Native American Heritage Month recognizes the lives and accomplishments of the Indigenous peoples of what is now known as the United States; and

WHEREAS, In celebrating and recognizing National Native American Heritage Month this year , the US Department of the Interior has adopted the theme: Celebrating Tribal Sovereignty and Identity. The Department of the Interior reminds us that National Native American Heritage Month is a time to celebrate the traditions, languages and stories of Native American, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, and affiliated Island communities and ensure their rich histories and contributions continue to thrive with each passing generation; and

WHEREAS, The 56th Annual Native American Day was celebrated at the California Capitol on September 22, 2023. This year's theme was "Protecting Our People Through Sovereignty: Past, Present, and Future" and;

WHEREAS, Indigenous peoples have made distinct and important contributions to California, the United States, and the rest of the world in many different ways; and

WHEREAS, today there are more than 100 federally recognized Indigenous tribes in California, more than any other state in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the United States Bureau of the Census determined in 2020 that there were over 720,000 individuals in the State of California of Native American descent, making it the largest population of Indigenous people in the 50 states; and

WHEREAS, Americans of all ages recognize the outstanding achievements and contributions of this nation's original inhabitants and their descendants; and

WHEREAS, at the time of first European contact, the San Francisco and Monterey Bay areas were the home to over fifty Indigenous tribes, each with its own territories; and

WHEREAS, today the independent tribes of the San Francisco Peninsula are known collectively as the Ramaytush Ohlone people; and

WHEREAS, the ancestral past of the Ramaytush Ohlone people spans ten thousand years, reaching back to the Ice Age and predating European contact that happened just a few hundred years ago; and

WHEREAS, San Mateo Union High School District and our community recognize the importance of understanding the history of this area, particularly with regard to the

Ramaytush Ohlone people who lived here first; and

WHEREAS the San Mateo Union High School District Governing Board acknowledges SMUHSD schools and properties are located on the unceded ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples who are the original inhabitants of the San Francisco Peninsula; and

WHEREAS the San Mateo Union High School District Board of Trustees hereby authorizes and encourages cultivate a relationship with the Ramaytush Ohlone to develop ways that we can teach our students and our community about the lives and accomplishments of local Indigenous peoples; and

WHEREAS the San Mateo Union High School District Board of Trustees hereby supports the use of curricula at our schools every year to help students understand the importance of Native American Heritage Month; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the San Mateo Union School District Board of Trustees recognizes November as National Native American Heritage Month; and

SAN MATEO UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Passed and Adopted on this 26th Day of OCTOBER, 2023

Superintendent President, Board of Trustees



Rancall Booker, Superintendent

Greg Land, Board President