

OAK GROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 1465-05/24
RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF MAY AS
NATIONAL ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

WHEREAS, the month of May is observed as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in the United States due to the enormous contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) throughout the history of our Nation; and

WHEREAS, May was designated as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month by the United States Congress in 1992. The month of May was chosen as the designated month of celebration to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese people to the United States on May 7, 1843, as well as the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869, where Chinese immigrants played a key role in laying the tracks; and

WHEREAS, over 110,000 Japanese American citizens sacrificed their opportunity to chase the American Dream and contribute to society when they were incarcerated as second-class citizens living in internment camps in the 1940s; and

WHEREAS, Filipino American migrant workers taught us the value of multicultural coalition building in the 1960s and 1970s, through their struggle for worker's rights in lockstep with Chicano/a/x workers in Delano, California; and

WHEREAS, since the fall of Saigon, we must honor the resilience of the Southeast Asian community, particularly the Vietnamese, Cambodian, Thai, Laotian, Hmong, Mien, Rohingya, and Burmese communities, as they flee conflict and relocate their lives in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Indigenous People of Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia are teaching us the cultural significance of preserving and promoting one's values and language in the context of assimilation; and

WHEREAS, Korean immigrants have shown us how to overcome significant challenges as they have endured anti-immigrant policies throughout the course of American history; and

WHEREAS, South Asian Americans, particularly those that are Muslim, Hindu, and Sikh, continue to fight against discrimination today due to being targets of suspicion and violence; and

WHEREAS, the Oak Grove School District Board of Education is committed to educating the public about the history of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States, California, and San Jose; and

WHEREAS, the State of California is home to over 600,000 Asian and Pacific Islander students from kindergarten through grade twelve; and

WHEREAS, the diversity of these groups include Bengali, Burmese, Cambodian, Chinese, Filipino, Hmong, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Lao, Malayan, Okinawan, Pakistani, Thai, Vietnamese, Samoan, Asian Indian, including others; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Census reported that people who identify as Asian or Pacific Islanders represent 38% of the population in Santa Clara County – becoming the largest racial or ethnic group in Santa Clara County; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge the historical and cultural contributions of Asian Pacific Americans in the development of the State of California; and

WHEREAS, many Asian Pacific Americans have experienced the injustices of exclusionary acts, denial of citizenship and land ownership, as well as internment in relocation camps; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge these Americans for their contributions to government, industry and commerce, agriculture, science, literature, the arts; and

WHEREAS, the Oak Grove School District Board of Education unanimously passed a resolution in March 2021 in support of denouncing hate crimes and bigotry targeting Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders; and

WHEREAS, the Oak Grove School District Board of Education unanimously passed a resolution in May 2022 in recognition of the month of May as National Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, which was authored by former Trustee Nancy Yue, the first female Asian American trustee in the Oak Grove School District's history; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oak Grove School District Board of Education does hereby proclaim the month of May 2024 as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month and every May in perpetuity and that all educational sites be encouraged to recognize the contributions of Asian Pacific Americans through our curriculum and activities; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Oak Grove School District renews its commitment to the safety, well-being, and teaching of all ethnic populations, including Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Education of the Oak Grove School District at a regular meeting held on this 9th day of May, 2024, by the following vote:

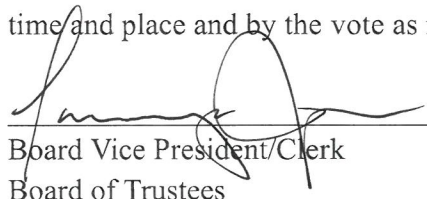
AYES: C. Hernandez, D. Martinez, J. Pacheco Jr., T. Jacob

NOES: None

ABSENT: B. Gonzalez

ABSTAIN: None

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution is duly introduced, passed, and adopted at the time and place and by the vote as noted above.



Board Vice President/Clerk
Board of Trustees
Oak Grove School District