

**San Mateo Union High School District
Proclamation Recognizing November 1-30, 2024
As National Native American Heritage Month**

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

WHEREAS, National Native American Heritage Month, celebrated in November, 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 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 57th Annual Native American Day was celebrated at the California Capitol on September 27, 2024. This year's theme was Recognizing 100 Years of Citizenship and the Fight for the Right to Vote: 1924-2024" 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, 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 acknowledges that it is located on the unceded ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples, recognizes that, as the original stewards of this land, the Ramaytush Ohlone understood the interconnectedness of all things and maintained harmony with nature for millennia, and honors the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples for their enduring commitment to Mother Earth.

WHEREAS the San Mateo Union High School District Board of Trustees hereby authorizes and encourages the cultivation of 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 that highlights the experiences and contributions of Native Peoples both historically and in our current times to help students understand the importance and relevance of Native American culture and history.

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

SAN MATEO UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Passed and Adopted on this 24th Day of OCTOBER, 2024



Superintendent

Ligia Andrade Zuniga

President, Board of Trustees