



Oxnard Union High School District

Resolution No. 24-18
Proclaiming April 7 to April 13, 2024
Adult Education Week

WHEREAS, the first recorded adult education class in California was held in the basement of St. Mary's Cathedral in San Francisco in 1856. The class was authorized by the San Francisco Board of Education to teach English to Irish, Italian, and Chinese immigrants. John Swett, who was the first volunteer teacher for the class, later became a State Superintendent of Public Instruction; and

WHEREAS, Adult Schools have been utilized on numerous occasions to assist the state as it dealt with significant social, political, and economic issues through job training programs during World War II, immigration reform of the 1980s, and most recently, the Great Recession; and

WHEREAS, Adult education in California overcame its biggest challenge as a result of the severe economic crisis facing both the state and the nation in 2008-2009. Funding that was previously reserved for adult education was redistributed to other levels of education in the state, resulting in many adult schools decreasing in size and some closing; and

WHEREAS, over 66% of adult learners enrolled in Adult Schools across California in 2022-23 were between the ages of 25-54, making them very likely to have children in our public school system. The impact of adult education is felt across generations, particularly for early childhood learners who have been characterized as a priority of the Governor and Legislature; and

WHEREAS, Oxnard Adult School successfully serves Oxnard, Port Hueneme, El Rio, Camarillo, and the surrounding communities through its collaboration with its community college partners and community-based organizations through the Adult Education system. Oxnard Adult School served 8,410 students in the 2022-23 school year; and

WHEREAS, Oxnard Adult School provides significant and varied classes and programs to serve Oxnard and the surrounding communities, including classes in Healthcare Training, Computer Technologies Training, Job Preparation Classes, High School Diploma and Equivalency Programs, English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, Citizenship Classes, and more; and

WHEREAS, Oxnard Adult School had 3,385 students in the High School Diploma and High School Equivalency Programs in the 2022-23 school year. The programs help minimize the high school dropout rate. 88 students earned their high school diploma, and 48 students earned their High School Equivalency in the 2022-23 school year; and

WHEREAS, Oxnard Adult School served 4,186 students in the English as a Second Language (ESL) Program in the 2022-23 school year, and parents enrolled in ESL classes learn how to assist their children with school work and dedicate several hours a year tutoring their own children; and

WHEREAS, Oxnard Adult School provides a safe environment for its students free from discrimination or bullying regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or socio-economic status;

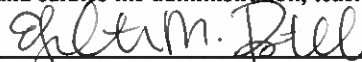
WHEREAS, amid the COVID-19 pandemic Oxnard Adult School continued to provide critical programming and services to our adult education students and their families via literacy and basic skills to help ensure our K12 students were successful as they navigated the challenge of distance learning to finish the school year;


WHEREAS, amid the COVID-19 pandemic and ongoing today, Oxnard Adult School provides important short-term career training programs, including for critical healthcare positions, to address both the short- and long-term impacts and to respond to Governor Newsom's charge to meet the moment and address the needs of our communities;

WHEREAS, the California Adult Education Program celebrates its 10th anniversary this year, having been established in law in 2014;

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Oxnard Union High School District strongly supports supporting Adult Education as an important part of the Oxnard Union High School District.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Governing Board of the Oxnard Union High School District joins California Council for Adult Education and the education community in proclaiming April 7th through April 13th, 2024 as Adult Education Week, commends and salutes the administration, teachers, and the students of the Oxnard Adult School.


Elizabeth M. Botello, M.J., M.Ed.
President, Board of Trustees
Oxnard Union High School District


Tom McCoy, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Oxnard Union High School District