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Gunn Marie Hansen, Ph.D., Superintendent

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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RESOLUTION #24-25-27
ASIAN AMERICAN / PACIFIC ISLANDERS HERITAGE MONTH

April 10, 2025

RECOGNIZING the significance of Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month as an important time to celebrate the significant contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to the history of the United States.

WHEREAS, the people of the United States join together each May to pay tribute to the contributions of generations of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders who have enriched the history of the United States;

WHEREAS, the history of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States is inextricably tied to the story of the United States;

WHEREAS, the Asian-American and Pacific Islander community is an inherently diverse population, composed of more than 45 distinct ethnicities and more than 100 language dialects;

WHEREAS, according to the Bureau of the Census, the Asian-American population grew faster than any other racial or ethnic group over the last decade, surging nearly 72 percent between 2000 and 2015;

WHEREAS, there are approximately 22,000,000 residents of the United States who identify as Asian and approximately 1,600,000 residents of the United States who identify as Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, making up nearly 7 percent of the total population of the United States;

WHEREAS, in the State of California, 11.7% of residents identify as Asian, 0.4% identify as Pacific Islander, in Orange County 19.7% of residents identify as Asian, 0.3% identify as Pacific Islander, and in the City of Westminster 37.1% of residents identify as Asian, 0.6% identify as Pacific Islander;

Vision Statement:

Leading the way as the premier Pre K-8th grade school district in Orange County, CA by providing exceptional and innovative experiences where all learners thrive.

Mission Statement:

It is our collective responsibility to educate and empower all students to pursue excellence through a distinctive, rigorous, and engaging academic experience.

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WHEREAS the month of May was selected for Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month because the first Japanese immigrants arrived in the United States on May 7, 1843, and the first transcontinental railroad was completed on May 10, 1869, with substantial contributions from Chinese immigrants;

WHEREAS, section 102 of title 36, United States Code, officially designates May as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month and requests the President to issue an annual proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe the month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities;

WHEREAS, since January 2020, the increased use of anti-Asian terminology and rhetoric related to the 2019 novel coronavirus ("COVID-19") has perpetuated an anti-Asian stigma and has resulted in a dramatic increase in reports of hate crimes and incidents against individuals of Asian descent;

WHEREAS, there remains much to be done to ensure that Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have access to resources and a voice in the Government of the United States and continue to advance in the political landscape of the United States; and

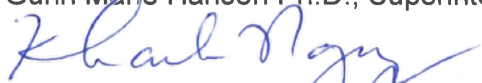
WHEREAS, celebrating Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month provides the people of the United States with an opportunity to recognize the achievements, contributions, and history of, and to understand the challenges faced by, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders: Now, therefore, be it

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Governing Board of the Westminster School District, recognizes the significance of Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month as an important time to celebrate the significant contributions of Asian American and Pacific Islanders to the history of the United States; and recognizes that Asian-American and Pacific Islander communities enhance the rich diversity of and strengthen the United States.

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Governing Board of the Westminster School District held this 10th day of April 2025, by the following vote:

AYES: 5 **NOES:** 0 **ABSTAIN:** 0 **ABSENT:** 0


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