

OAK GROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. 1541-02/26 RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY AS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

WHEREAS, Black History Month is celebrated every February as a tribute to the achievements of African Americans who have shaped American history from the earliest presence of Africans in what is now the United States to the present day, including historic milestones in civic, cultural, and political leadership; and

WHEREAS, the origin of Black History Month began in 1915, half a century after the Thirteenth Amendment abolished slavery in the United States, and grew out of "Negro History Week," the creation of noted historian Carter G. Woodson and other prominent African Americans; and

WHEREAS, a week was chosen in February of 1926 to celebrate Black History as it acknowledged the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln on February 12 and of Frederick Douglass on February 20, both of whom were recognized as champions of freedom and equality for all men; and

WHEREAS, the nationally recognized 2026 Black History Month theme, "A Century of Black History Commemorations," marks the 100-year anniversary of the first formal observance of Black history in 1926 and invites reflection on the evolution, significance, and enduring impact of Black history commemorations in shaping historical understanding, education, and civic life; and

WHEREAS, with the Civil Rights Movement and a growing awareness of black identity, Black History Month or National African American History Month evolved to an annual celebration of achievements by black Americans and a time for recognizing the central role of African Americans in U.S. history; and

WHEREAS, the contributions of African Americans from all walks of life and their endeavors to learn and thrive throughout history and make unforgettable marks in our Nation as artists, scientists, educators, business people, influential thinkers, members of the faith community, athletes, and political and governmental leaders, reflects the greatness of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Black history is a part of American history and as educational leaders we have a responsibility to educate students about the role and contribution of African Americans in history throughout the entire year, including embracing aspects of African American history that are all too often ignored; and

WHEREAS, Oak Grove School District further recognizes and celebrates the value of diversity and the richness of cultural heritages within the District, and the integral part that each of our many communities play in the overall fabric of our history as well as the present state of the City and District; and,

WHEREAS, Oak Grove School District affirms its commitment to appreciating, celebrating, and valuing its African-American students, and recognizes the importance of acknowledging the history, culture, and struggles of our African-American community; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Oak Grove School District hereby proclaims February 2026 as Black History Month in this school district, and encourages all schools to commemorate this time with appropriate instructional activities, and supports the educational advancement of African American students.

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

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Trustees of the Oak Grove School District at a regular meeting held on this 12th day of February, 2026, by the following vote:


AYES: 5

NOES: 0

ABSENT: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

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 President/Clerk
Board of Trustees
Oak Grove School District