

**San Mateo Union High School District
Proclamation Recognizing May 1-31, 2026
As Asian American And Pacific Islander Heritage Month**

WHEREAS, according to recent U.S. Census Bureau data, Asians and Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders are among the nation's fastest-growing populations, with approximately 24.7 million Asian residents and 1.8 million Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander residents in the United States in 2022; and

WHEREAS, California's 2024–25 TK–12 public school enrollment includes approximately 586,566 Asian students and 23,214 Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander students. In the San Mateo Union High School District roughly 27% of our students are of Asian, Filipino and Pacific Islander descent; and

WHEREAS, these students and their families reflect the rich diversity of cultures and heritages of the many different countries of Asia and the Pacific Islands, and Californians have benefited greatly from their contributions to our society; and

WHEREAS, We recognize that the AAPI community may be impacted by collective stereotyping and bigotry, ignoring the community's cultural diversities and individual historic struggles. Thus, the term AAPI encompasses all of the diverse communities under the umbrella of Asian American and Pacific Islander; and

WHEREAS, the San Mateo Union High School District is committed to providing a safe learning and working environment for all of the members of its community that is free from discrimination and harassment. The District denounces bullying, hazing, hate incidents or any behavior that infringes on the safety or well-being of students, employees, or any person within the District's jurisdiction without regard to intent as outlined in the District's: [Bulletin on Responding to and Reporting Bullying, Hazing, and Hate Incidents and Crimes](#); and

WHEREAS, now more than ever, the members of our SMUHSD community should remember our heritage and history and recognize that we must continue to celebrate the contributions of Asians and Pacific Islanders as we also defend their rights for equal and fair treatment as Americans during a time when discrimination against people of Asian and Pacific Islander heritage continues; and

WHEREAS, despite hardships and barriers, the people of Asia and the Pacific Islands who came to this country and their descendants have made immense contributions to California's economic growth and development, weaving clear and distinct threads into the state's social fabric; and

WHEREAS, California and the Bay Area are home to many AAPI trailblazers, including Fred Korematsu, a Japanese American civil rights activist who fought against Japanese-American internment camps during World War II, Amy Tan, the Chinese-American author of the critically acclaimed novel *The Joy Luck Club*, and Haing Somnang Ngor, Cambodian-born American doctor and Academy Award-winning actor.

WHEREAS, The District shares a responsibility to educate students about the multifaceted heritage of Asians and Pacific Islanders through the curricula; and

WHEREAS, representation of Asian American and Pacific Islander voices, histories, and perspectives in education leads to more understanding, empathy, and inclusion for all students, and strengthens a culturally responsive learning environment; and

WHEREAS, San Mateo is enriched by a diverse Asian American and Pacific Islander population; this

population's traditions, languages, and culture continue to shape the Bay Area's identity; and

WHEREAS, Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month is celebrated annually at state and national levels; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of San Mateo Union High School District that May is designated as Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month and that SMUHSD calls upon schools, staff, students, and families to observe May as Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month by celebrating and recognizing the countless contributions made by Asians and Pacific Islanders throughout our history.

SAN MATEO UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Passed and adopted on the 30th day of April, 2026.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Randall P. Barber", followed by a horizontal line.

Superintendent

Teri Chavez

President, Board of Trustees