

**San Rafael City Schools**  
**Resolution #2425-55**  
**In Support and Recognition of National Deaf History Month**  
**April 1 – April 30th 2025**

Whereas the purpose of National Deaf History Month is to increase awareness of and express appreciation for the many contributions that deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals have made to our society;

Whereas according to the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS), about 3.6% of the U.S. population, or about 11 million individuals, consider themselves deaf or have serious difficulty hearing;

Whereas deaf culture is an important part of the fabric of our society;

Whereas deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals have made and continue to make numerous contributions to the United States;

Whereas the American School for the Deaf opened in Hartford, Connecticut, on April 15, 1817, as the first public school for the deaf in the United States;

Whereas Gallaudet University was founded on April 8, 1864, when President Lincoln signed the charter establishing it as the first college for the deaf in the world;

Whereas on March 13, 1988, Gallaudet University selected its first deaf university president;

Whereas National Deaf History Month had been observed from March 13 to April 15 every year since 1997, and is now observed during the month of April;

Whereas the National Association of the Deaf supports recognizing the month of April as National Deaf History Month; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the San Rafael City Schools Board of Education does hereby adopt this resolution to support the goals and ideals of National Deaf History Month, recognize the many contributions that deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals have made to the United States, recognize San Rafael City Schools staff who support students with hearing loss, and their families, in education and encourage people to observe National Deaf History Month with appropriate programs and activities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be distributed to all schools within the district.

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**PASSED AND ADOPTED** on March 24, 2025, by the Governing Board of the San Rafael City Schools, by the following vote:

Maureen de Nieva-Marsh \_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Koerner \_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Wing Keung Jason Lau \_\_\_\_\_  
Carolina Martin \_\_\_\_\_  
Isai Rodas \_\_\_\_\_

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Carolina Martin  
Board President

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Carmen Diaz Ghysels  
Superintendent