



Resolution in Recognition of October as Italian Heritage Month

WHEREAS, Italian Americans have made significant contributions to the cultural, economic, educational, artistic, scientific, and political fabric of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the month of October is nationally recognized as Italian Heritage Month, honoring the rich history, enduring traditions, and profound impact of Italian Americans on our society; and

WHEREAS, Italian immigrants and their descendants have played a vital role in shaping American communities, including through labor, innovation, and civic engagement; and

WHEREAS, it is essential for students of all backgrounds to learn about and appreciate the diverse cultures and histories that contribute to the strength and character of our nation; and

WHEREAS, in Santa Rosa, Italian immigrants began arriving in significant numbers around 1885, with many coming from the marble quarries of Carrara in Northern Italy; and

WHEREAS, these immigrants were instrumental in the development of the local basalt industry, and their skilled stonework is visible in the construction of historic stone buildings in Railroad Square and other prominent city landmarks; and

WHEREAS, the Italian community established distinct and enduring neighborhoods, such as the Westside and West Third districts, and contributed to the local economy through businesses in food, lodging, and agriculture; and

WHEREAS, promoting awareness and education about Italian heritage helps foster understanding, respect, and inclusion among all students and staff; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education supports a culturally responsive curriculum that highlights the diverse heritage of all peoples, including the rich legacy of Italian Americans;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Rosa City Schools Board of Education does hereby proclaim the month of October as Italian Heritage Month in all schools throughout the district; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board encourages schools to incorporate educational activities, classroom discussions, and events during October that recognize and celebrate the history, contributions, and culture of Italian Americans as part of our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 26th day of August, 2026.

YEAS:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Sarah Jenkins, Clerk of the Board