

San Rafael City Schools

Resolution 2425-33

In Support And Recognition Of Black History Month, February 2025

WHEREAS, Americans of African descent helped develop our nation in countless ways, those recognized, unrecognized, and unrecorded; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, Black History Month was officially recognized by the federal government to honor and recognize the struggles and achievements of African Americans to our national life and culture; and

WHEREAS, African American history reflects a determined spirit of perseverance and cultural pride in its struggle to equally share in the opportunities of a nation founded upon the principles of freedom and liberty for all people; and

WHEREAS, in spite of the African slave trade that created an institution of white supremacy in this nation, African Americans have nonetheless continued to persevere and move forward in society, fighting for their freedom and also for the freedom of all Americans over time; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, Kamala D. Harris was elected the first woman, African-American, South Asian Vice-President of the United States; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, California historically elected the most African Americans to serve in the Legislature, totaling 12 members; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, Barack H. Obama was elected the first African American President of the United States and served two presidential terms; and

WHEREAS, with our nation shaken by high-profile incidents of racial injustice, African American families and our country are demanding strong leadership and action for equity and social justice; and

WHEREAS, the 2025 Black History Month theme “African American and Labor” focuses on the significant role that African American people’s labor has played in shaping the history of the United States. The 2025 Black History Month theme, “African Americans and Labor,” sets out to highlight and celebrate the potent impact of this work.

WHEREAS, San Rafael City Schools has established core district values of Community, Equity and Joy to uphold its focus on building inclusive communities and helping individuals understand equity, joyfully celebrate diversity and affirm identity; and

WHEREAS, acknowledging the courageous fight for the rights, liberties, and freedoms for all Americans, the San Rafael City Schools Board of Education encourages educators, students, and families to learn about Black History Month and about the heritage and achievements of African American people through appropriate programs and activities that reflect the theme.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the San Rafael City Schools Board of Education does hereby adopt this resolution to honor Black History Month and recognizes the tremendous contributions made by African Americans, and encourage all schools to commemorate this occasion both now and throughout the school year with appropriate programs and activities.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on January 13, 2025, by the Governing Board of the San Rafael City Schools, by the following vote,

Carolina Martin _____
Mark Koerner _____
Maureen de Nieva Marsh _____
Isai Rodas _____

Carolina Martin
Board President

Carmen Diaz Ghysels
Superintendent