

PIEDMONT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

RESOLUTION No. 12-2022-23

RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY AS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

WHEREAS the deep-rooted, intrinsic value of Black history presents our educational institution with an opportunity for recognition, teaching, and celebration; and

WHEREAS Piedmont Unified School District recognizes and celebrates the history and contributions of Black and African Americans who have been overlooked, misinterpreted, and undervalued in the curriculum of public education institutions; and

WHEREAS Black and African American history is rich, inspiring, and integral to the story of the United States of America, where characters contributed to the development of the nation in ways recorded and in ways unrecorded, and where a centuries-long struggle for equal opportunity found its crescendo in the thunderous triumph that was the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which was not only a positive and necessary reconciliation in our legislative strata, but also for the people a historic symbol of rebirth, a powerful, true expression of ideals in this nation that believes in freedom and liberty for all people; and

WHEREAS Black and African American Californians, including Sidney Dearing, Barbara Lee, Betty Reid Soskin, Ron Dellums, Willie Brown, Angela Davis, Belva Davis, Sly Stone, Don Barksdale, Octavia Butler, Clayborne Carson, Eva Patterson, Kamala Harris, Shakti Butler, jon powell, Ericka Huggins, James Lawson Jr., Serena Williams, Venus Williams, Ryan Coogler, Kareem Abdul Jabbar and others have made a positive and enduring impact on the lives of Californians and all Americans, demonstrating professional excellence and showing moral leadership that continues to resonate around the world.

WHEREAS authoritatively the California Education Code establishes March 5 as Black American Day to commemorate the anniversary of the death of Crispus Attucks, the first African American martyr of the Boston Massacre, and in so doing recognizes that Black and African Americans have participated in every American effort to secure, protect, and maintain the essence and substance of American democracy; and WHEREAS the California State Board of Education also recognizes in its *Policy Statement on Multicultural Education* that each student needs an opportunity to understand the common humanity underlying all people, to develop pride in his or her own identity and heritage, and to understand, respect, and accept the identity and heritage of others; and

WHEREAS the *History-Social Science Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve* states appropriately that the history curriculum of community, state, region, nation, and world must reflect the experiences of men and women and of different racial, religious, and ethnic groups and must be

integrated at every level; and

WHEREAS Black history is continuously being made, and concurrently, classroom discussion that is courageous is encouraged in our institution as an essential function of student-centered wellness and education;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Piedmont Unified School District Board of Education joins other communities and school districts in California and across the country in celebrating the month of February as Black History Month, and encourages all schools to commemorate this occasion accordingly with appropriate instructional materials, discussions, presentations and projects; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this executed Resolution be distributed to all PUSD schools.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Piedmont Unified School District Board of Education at a meeting held on February 8, 2023 by the following vote:

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Veronica Anderson Thigpen, Board President
Piedmont Unified School District
Board of Education

Donald Evans, Ed.D., Secretary
Piedmont Unified School District
Board of Education