

MONTEREY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION NUMBER 19-20-24

Recognizing and Honoring

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

2020 Theme: African Americans and the Vote

WHEREAS, in February, **BLACK HISTORY MONTH** has been established as an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing the central role of blacks in U. S. history and to develop pride in their own heritage; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of **BLACK HISTORY MONTH** began as "Negro History Week" in 1926, created by Carter G. Woodson, a noted African American historian, scholar, educator and publisher, who declared that the celebration would always occur the second week of February, between the birthdays of Frederick Douglas and Abraham Lincoln; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, **BLACK HISTORY MONTH** was officially recognized by the federal government, and every President since, to honor and recognize the struggles, triumphs and impressive achievements of African Americans to our national life and culture; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 theme for **BLACK HISTORY MONTH** is *African Americans and the Vote* which recognizes the struggle for voting rights among both black men and women throughout American history as an ongoing battle experienced by people of color that continues into the 21st century; and

WHEREAS, 2020 marks the 150th anniversary of the Fifteenth Amendment (1870) which gave the right of black men to vote following the Civil War and also marks the centennial of the Nineteenth Amendment and the culmination of the women's suffrage movement; and

WHEREAS, "Almost always, the creative dedicated minority has made the world better," quoted by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., reflecting the greatness of the United States through African Americans' endeavors to learn and thrive, make unforgettable contributions in education, science, art, and human rights, and have defining impacts on our country serving at the highest levels of business, government and the military; and

WHEREAS, the *History-Social Science Framework for California Public Schools* states that the history curriculum of community, state, region, nation, and world must reflect the experiences of men and women of different racial, religious, and ethnic groups and must be integrated at every level; and

WHEREAS, the Monterey County Board of Education encourages educators, students, and families to learn about **BLACK HISTORY MONTH** and about the heritage and achievements of African-Americans through appropriate programs and activities that reflect the theme for 2020:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Monterey County Board of Education does hereby adopt Resolution Number 19-20-24 to honor **BLACK HISTORY MONTH** and recognize the tremendous contributions made by African-Americans.

Passed and Adopted on the Fifteenth Day of January, 2020

Ron Panziera, President

John McPherson, Vice President

Lupe Sànchez, Member

Janet Wohlgemuth, Member

Mary C

Harvey Kuffner, Member

Judy Pennycook, Member

Dr. Deneen Guss, Monterey County Superintendent of Schools