

Resolution

MONTEREY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION NUMBER 20-21-07

Honoring and Recognizing

CALIFORNIA NATIVE AMERICAN DAY

Friday, September 25, 2020

WHEREAS, an official state holiday, **California Native American Day** is a time-honored tradition in the California Native American community and provides an opportunity to learn about the history of the original stewards of our land and their vibrant cultures and rich traditions; and

WHEREAS, **Native American Day** began in California in 1939 when Governor Culbert Olson dedicated October 1st as *Indian Day* and in 1968, California Tribal Leaders and Governor Ronald Reagan declared the fourth Friday of September as *California Indian Day*; and

WHEREAS, Native Americans are considered to be the first Americans to live in and populate the United States and by the time the first explorers and settlers arrived from Europe, Native Americans had populated the entire North American continent, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from the Gulf of Mexico all the way to the northern reaches of Canada; and

WHEREAS, California is one of the richest states in the nation because of the culture and diversity of its many federally recognized tribes and **California Native American Day** is an opportunity to learn about the Ohlone/Costanoan-Esselen Nation who have been Indigenous to the Monterey County area for more than 10,000 years; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, 1200 acres of undeveloped property near Big Sur, which is the ancestral homeland of the Esselen Tribe, has been returned to its people to conserve and provide space to perform ceremonies and continue their rich cultural activities without interruption; and

WHEREAS, the Monterey County Board of Education takes great pride in recognizing the 53rd Anniversary of **California Native American Day** on Friday, September 25, 2020 and calls upon educators and the community to observe this day with appropriate activities and programs, and to educate students about California tribes and the California Native American way of life:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Monterey County Board of Education does hereby adopt Resolution Number 20-21-07 to honor the **Ohlone/Costanoan-Esselen Nation** and **California Native American Day** on September 25, 2020 to mark the achievements and contributions of Indigenous peoples in California.

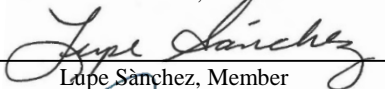
**Passed and Adopted on the
Ninth Day of September 2020**



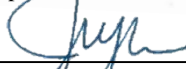
Ron Panziera, President



John McPherson, Vice President



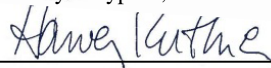
Lupe Sanchez, Member



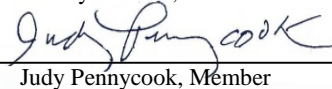
Janet Wohlgenuth, Member



Mary Claypool, Member



Harvey Kuffner, Member



Judy Pennycook, Member



Dr. Deneen Guss, Monterey County Superintendent of Schools