

MT. DIABLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD  
RESOLUTION 21/22-15

Deaf Awareness Month, International Week of Deaf People, and International Day of Sign Languages

WHEREAS, the deaf population includes a wide range of individuals, from those who were born profoundly deaf and use American Sign Language (ASL) as a primary means of communication to those with a degree of hearing loss who use hearing aids or other forms of amplification and communication modes; and,

WHEREAS, the State of California benefits from the many contributions of deaf, deafblind and hard of hearing residents throughout the state; and,

WHEREAS, the State of California is enriched by the diverse and unique heritage, language, and culture of the deaf community; and,

WHEREAS, it is important to ensure that California's deaf, deafblind, or hard of hearing individuals have equal access to the many benefits and opportunities available to hearing individuals to live, work, play, learn and communicate in California; and,

WHEREAS, the purpose of Deaf Awareness Month is to increase public awareness of the issues and the culture of people who are deaf, as well as to promote equal access to information and services for deaf individuals, to educate the public about the misconceptions of being deaf, and to learn about the types of educational programs, support services, and resources available to people who are deaf, deafblind, or hard of hearing; and,

WHEREAS, Deaf Awareness Week, September 20-26, 2021 will focus on promoting positive aspects of deafness, encouraging social inclusion, and raising awareness of the organizations that support those who are deaf; and,

WHEREAS, the UN General Assembly has proclaimed September 23, 2021 as the International Day of Sign Languages in order to raise awareness of the importance of sign language in the full realization of the human rights of people who are deaf; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the Governing Board of the Mt. Diablo Unified School District hereby proclaims the month of September as Deaf Awareness Month; the week beginning September 20-26, 2021 as International Week of Deaf People; and September 23, 2021 as International Day of Sign Languages; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be distributed to all schools within the district.

AYES: NOES: ABSENCES: ABSTENTIONS:

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Cherise Khaund, Board President

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Debra Mason, Board Vice President

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Linda Mayo, Board Member

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Erin McFerrin, Board Member

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Keisha Nzewi, Board Member

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Dr. Adam Clark, Superintendent

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*Resolution 21/22 – 15 Adopted at the meeting of the MDUSD Governing Board of Education on 09/08/2021*

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