



MT. DIABLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD
RESOLUTION 23/24-16
Recognizing Filipino American History Month

WHEREAS it is necessary to instill in our youth the importance of education, history, and self-determination in creating eminent role models, in establishing a proud cultural identity, and producing exceptional citizens of this nation; and

WHEREAS, today, the Filipino American community is the second largest Asian American group in the United States, with an estimated population of 4.5 million people and the third largest ethnic group in California after Latinos and Africa Americans, making up 4% of the district student population; and

WHEREAS the earliest documented evidence of Filipinos in the continental United States occurred on October 18, 1587, when mariners under Spanish command, referred to as "Luzones Indios," landed in Morro Bay, California; and

WHEREAS, the Filipino American National Historical Society established Filipino American History Month in 1988 and subsequently, every October, many communities throughout the United States and its territories have celebrated this occasion, not only to commemorate the anniversary of the presence of the first Filipinos on US soil and to observe its heritage, but also to recognize the social, intellectual, and economic contributions of Filipinos and Filipino Americans in this country; and

WHEREAS, the Filipino Americans, under the leadership of Larry Itliong, established the United Farm Workers and advocated for social justice in California and nationally in partnership with Hispanic/Latinx, Black/African American, Arab, and other Asian Americans; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Education first recognized October as Filipino American History Month in 2006 by placing it on its celebrations calendar, the 111th Congress of the United States recognized it in November 2009, and the California State Legislature recognized it in September 2017; and

WHEREAS, California Assembly Bill 199 passed in October 2011 called for the integration of the contributions of Filipino veterans in World War II and Assembly Bill 123 passed in October 2013 called for the integration of the contributions of Filipino Americans in the farm labor movement into the social science curriculum for grades 7-12; and

WHEREAS, immigrants from the Philippines and their families truly have enriched our nation, state, and cities through their work and contributions in agriculture, their service in the Armed Forces, their offerings, skills and expertise as engineers, scientists, teachers, entrepreneurs, accountants, lawyers, health care professionals, and their participation in public offices, civic affairs, and community activities; and

WHEREAS, efforts should continue to promote the Filipino American history and culture, because the roles of Filipino Americans and other people of color have been previously overlooked in the writing, teaching and learning of United States history; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Board of Mt. Diablo Unified School District proclaims October as Filipino American History Month and that all educational sites are encouraged to commemorate this occasion accordingly with appropriate instructional materials, discussions, presentations and projects.

AYES: NOES: ABSENCES: ABSTENTIONS:

Keisha Nzewi, Board President

Erin McFerrin, Board Vice President

Cherise Khaund, Board Member

Debra Mason, Board Member

Linda Mayo Board Member

Dr. Adam Clark, Superintendent

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Adopted at the meeting of the MDUSD Governing Board of Education on 9/27/2023