



MT. DIABLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD  
RESOLUTION 21/22-64  
California Adult Education Week, March 27 to April 2, 2022

**WHEREAS**, from March 27<sup>th</sup> through April 2<sup>nd</sup> the State of California will observe Adult Education Week, recognizing the unique accomplishments of California Adult Schools; and

**WHEREAS**, the California State Senate acknowledges that K12 Adult Schools offer quality programs meeting ever-changing economic, workforce and lifelong learning needs of our diverse state; and

**WHEREAS**, the first recorded adult education class in California was held in the basement of St. Mary's Cathedral in San Francisco in 1856 and authorized by the San Francisco Board of Education to teach English to Irish, Italian, and Chinese immigrants. John Swett, who was the first volunteer teacher for the class, later became a State Superintendent of Public Instruction; and

**WHEREAS**, students served through Adult Education deal with illiteracy, poverty and high unemployment and are the most negatively impacted group when the state faces economic, social, and health challenges, most recently seen through the impact of the COVID-19 global pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, Adult Schools have been utilized on numerous occasions to assist the state with significant social, political, and economic issues through job training programs during World War II, immigration reform of the 1980s, and most recently, the Great Recession; and

**WHEREAS**, Adult education in California overcame its biggest challenge as a result of the severe economic crisis (the Great Recession) facing both the state and the nation in 2008-2009. Funding that was previously reserved for adult education was redistributed to other levels of education in the state, resulting in many adult schools decreasing in size and some closing; and

**WHEREAS**, there are currently 600,000 adult learners enrolled in ESL classes at adult schools across California that are in the age-range to have children in our public school system. The impact of adult education is felt across generations, particularly for early childhood learners who have been characterized as a priority of the Governor and Legislature; and

**WHEREAS**, Adult Schools are a primary community resource for the teaching and instruction of adult literacy working in collaboration with community colleges, community centers and libraries; and

**WHEREAS**, Adult Schools provide a way for adults to complete secondary studies and obtain a high school diploma and equivalency at their own pace and to prepare for and transition to post-secondary education and career training; and

**WHEREAS**, Adult Schools provide critical opportunities to bring recent dropouts back to school; and

**WHEREAS**, Adult Schools provide instruction to those in the state who need English as a Second Language and Citizenship courses and plays a key role in the immigrant integration and path to US Citizenship, which is important for our diverse communities and in this time of immigration reform; and

**WHEREAS**, Adult Schools, recognizing that to break the cycle of illiteracy and to support educational equity for all our children we must focus on educating parents, provide programs in Family Literacy at elementary schools in conjunction with community-based organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, Adult Schools provide short-term career and technical training for adults seeking changes or enhancements in their career pathway; and

**WHEREAS**, Adult Schools in California were saved from closure state-wide in 2015 as a result of the establishment of the California Adult Education Program by the Legislature and Administration, which continues to restore access and programs for adult learners through regional planning and collaboration; and

**WHEREAS, Mt. Diablo Adult Education** is a diverse place of learning for students, safe from discrimination or bullying regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or socio-economic status; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Governing Board of the Mt. Diablo Unified School District hereby proclaims March 27-April 2, 2022, as ADULT EDUCATION WEEK and salutes the teachers, administrators, classified staff, and students of adult education programs statewide, honoring their efforts, persistence and accomplishments.

AYES:      NOES:      ABSENCES:      ABSTENTIONS:

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Debra Mason, Board President

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Keisha Nzewi, Board Vice President

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Cherise Khaund, Board Member

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Linda Mayo, Board Member

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Erin McFerrin, Board Member

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Dr. Adam Clark, Superintendent

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*Resolution 21/22-64*

*Adopted at the meeting of the MDUSD Governing Board of Education on 03/23/2022*