

MT. DIABLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Resolution #15/16-16

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

WHEREAS, this country was home to generations of native people long before the arrival of European explorers and each of these tribes had a unique and vibrant culture as well as a system of social order; and

WHEREAS, the European settlers were aided in their survival by the teachings of this country's first inhabitants and the contributions of the Native Americans to this nation's government, history, and culture are as numerous and varied as the tribes themselves; and

WHEREAS, each tribe has celebrated heroes of their own in government, sports, visual and performing arts, literature, engineering, medicine, education, and environmental science; and

WHEREAS, the California State Board of Education recognizes in its Policy Statement on Multicultural Education that each student needs an opportunity to understand the common humanity underlying all people; to develop pride in his or her own identity and heritage; and to understand, respect, and accept the identity and heritage of others; and

WHEREAS, the American culture has been greatly influenced by the customs and traditions of native peoples and their close relationship to the earth and all its inhabitants; and

WHEREAS, California *Education Code* section 5124.5 specifically calls for instruction in the social sciences to include the study of the role and contributions of Native Americans to the economic, political, and social development of California and the nation, with particular emphasis on portraying the role of Native Americans in contemporary society; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mt. Diablo Unified School District proclaims the month of November as Native American Heritage Month and encourages all schools to commemorate this occasion with appropriate instructional materials; and

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

Cheryl Hansen
President, Board of Education

Debra Mason
Vice President, Board of Education

Brian Lawrence
Member, Board of Education

Linda K. Mayo
Member, Board of Education

Barbara Oaks
Member, Board of Education

Date