September 3, 2014

TO: Santa Clara County Board of Education

FROM: Jon R. Gundry
County Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Approval of Resolution in Support of September 28, 2014 as Confucius Day

SCCOE Associated Goal
Goal 3: Be a premier employer

Background

Confucius Day honors one of the world’s greatest philosophers. Born in China in 551 B.C., Confucius was also a teacher, a scholar and a politician.

The philosophy of Confucius emphasized personal and governmental morality, correctness of social relationships, justice and sincerity.

Confucius is credited with having authored or edited many classic Chinese texts. His principles have a basis in common Chinese tradition and belief, and espoused the well-known principle “do not do to others what you do not want done to yourself,” an early version of the Golden Rule.

This resolution would designate September 28 as Confucius Day, recognizing and honoring one of the world’s greatest teachers, and all other educators, for their dedication and hard work.

Fiscal Implications

The passage of this resolution has no fiscal implications.

Requested Action

Approve the resolution in support of September 28, 2014 as Confucius Day
RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 28, 2014
AS CONFUCIUS DAY

SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION No.

WHEREAS, Confucius was a great sage, a great educator, and one of the most influential and respected philosophers in world history; and

WHEREAS, Confucian ideals have been a cornerstone for the development of culture, society, government, and education in many countries throughout history and the world; and

WHEREAS, Confucius authored the Lun-yu, also known as the Analects of Confucius, and a group of texts known as the "Five Classics" which have guided many countries in the attainment of social, economic and education equity; and

WHEREAS, the fundamental belief of Confucian ideology is "humanity," a belief that people possess qualities, such as morality and benevolence, which distinguish them from animals; and

WHEREAS, Confucian philosophy advocates filial piety, loyalty and reciprocity, which are qualities that are universally honored; and

WHEREAS, Confucius, as a teacher, believed people have integrity and dignity and are equal and educable; and

WHEREAS, Confucian teaching holds that there is abundant potential in each student, that there are no class distinctions, and that by nature all people are one and the same; and

WHEREAS, Confucian philosophy promotes "open door" schools and instruction that is both formal and informal; and

WHEREAS, Confucian doctrine tells us that the interaction between teacher and student is one of the most important relationships, promoting mutual trust, honor, and respect; and
WHEREAS, Confucian philosophy tells us that it is through the teaching profession that our communities learn to communicate to others the culture and values of their home and are in turn able to learn of the cultures and values of other people in the world;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Clara County Board of Education and County Superintendent of Schools proclaim September 28, the birthday of one of the world’s greatest teachers Confucius, as Confucius Day.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Santa Clara County Board of Education at a meeting held on September 3, 2014 by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

Leon Beauchman, President
Santa Clara County Board of Education

Jon R. Gundry
County Superintendent of Schools