

**RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING AND HONORING BLACK HISTORY MONTH
2017 THEME: THE CRISIS IN BLACK EDUCATION**

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION No. 2197-2**

WHEREAS, the origin of Black History Month began in 1915, half a century after the Thirteenth Amendment abolished slavery in the United States, and grew out of “Negro History Week,” the creation of noted historian Carter G. Woodson and other prominent African Americans; and

WHEREAS, with the Civil Rights Movement and a growing awareness of black identity, Black History Month or National African American History Month evolved to an annual celebration of achievements by black Americans and a time for recognizing the central role of African Americans in U.S. history; and

WHEREAS, the 2017 theme for Black History Month, The Crisis in Black Education, brings focus to the persistently imposed racial barriers to equal education and the crucial role of education in the history of African Americans, beginning with the days of slavery when it was unlawful for slaves to learn to read and write and continuing today where public schools can lack resources, endure overcrowding, and exhibit racial achievement gaps; and

WHEREAS, the contributions of African Americans from all walks of life and their endeavors to learn and thrive throughout history and make unforgettable marks in our Nation as artists, scientists, educators, business people, influential thinkers, members of the faith community, athletes, and political and governmental leaders, reflects the greatness of the United States; and

WHEREAS, remaining hopeful and confident about the path ahead, and a time to acknowledge the courageous fight for the rights, liberties, and freedoms for all Americans, the Santa Clara County Board of Education observes and honors Black History Month and encourages educators, students, and families to learn about the heritage and achievements of African-Americans through appropriate programs and activities that reflect the theme for 2017:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Santa Clara County Board of Education and County Superintendent of Schools does hereby adopt this resolution to honor Black History Month and recognize the tremendous contributions made by African-Americans.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Santa Clara County Board of Education at a meeting held on February 15, 2017, by the following vote:

AYES: President Chang, Vice President Kamei, members Di Salvo, Green, Song, Rossi and Mah

NOES: -none-

ABSTAIN: -none-

ABSENT: -none-



Dr. Michael Chang, President
Santa Clara County Board of Education



Jon R. Gundry
County Superintendent of Schools