

**RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF MAY AS NATIONAL ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN
HERITAGE MONTH**

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION No. 2280-1**

WHEREAS, the month of May is recognized by the Santa Clara County Office of Education as National Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. This is a time to acknowledge and honor Asians and Pacific Islanders in the United States; and

WHEREAS, May was designated as National Asian Pacific American Heritage Month by the United States Congress in 1992. The month of May was chosen as the designated month of celebration to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese to the United States on May 7, 1843, as well as the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869, where Chinese immigrants played a key role in laying track; and

WHEREAS, per the data provided by the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders make up 38 percent of the population; the largest ethnic group in Santa Clara County; and,

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) has established a partnership with Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics (LEAP). Its leaders and members of the AAPI Educators Network participate in the Asian American & Pacific Islander Educators Network meetings and trainings supported by County Superintendent of Schools, and facilitated by Dr. Yee Wan, SCCOE Director of School Climate, Leadership & Instructional Services; and,

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Board of Education renews its commitment to the safety and well-being of all ethnic populations including Asian Americans; and,

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Board of Education unanimously passed a resolution in 2020 and March 2021 in support of denouncing xenophobia due to fears of the COVID-19 pandemic and affirming the Board's commitment to the well-being and safety of Asian American staff and students; and,

WHEREAS, the SCCOE supports student diversity and narrowing of the opportunity gap. Its participation in the Asian American Pacific Islander Network Group encourages Asian American Pacific Islander educators to aim for leadership roles as it is a proven strategy that student outcomes are positively impacted when students see themselves reflected in leadership roles in our schools and communities; and,

WHEREAS, the affiliation with the Asian Pacific American Leadership Institute has supported initiatives of its graduates, including the “My Name, My Identity Initiative”. This initiative asks the school community to foster a welcoming atmosphere by pronouncing students’ names correctly, thereby honoring the individual student and creating a sense of belonging; and,

WHEREAS, the Asian Pacific American Leadership Institute has made many contributions to the community, and is a premier leader in training socially-conscious and effective civic leaders; and,

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education supports both civic learning and civic engagement activities; and,

WHEREAS, the Asian Pacific American Leadership Institute was established to emphasize public service, and since establishment has encouraged Asian Pacific American civic participation, bridging members of the Silicon Valley community with community based organizations to make an impact in local policy, housing, and education; and,

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education is an institute of learning that is committed to serving, inspiring, and promoting student and public school success; and

WHEREAS, the Santa County Office of Education is committed to honoring and celebrating the diversity of others as well as ensuring that we learn from the heritage and culture of others; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County Superintendent of Schools and County Board of Education recognize the month of May as National Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

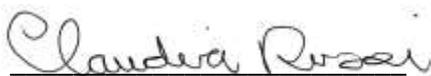
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the County Board of Education at a meeting held on April 21, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: President Rossi, Vice President King and Trustees Chon, Di Salvo, Kamei, Mah and Ortiz

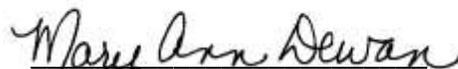
NOES: none

ABSTAIN: none

ABSENT: none



Claudia Rossi, President
Santa Clara County Board of Education



Mary Ann Dewan, Ph.D.
County Superintendent of Schools