

RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE FALL OF SAIGON

SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION No. 2464-3

WHEREAS, April 30, 2025, marked the 50th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War, also known as the Fall of Saigon, a day of remembrance and rededication to the principles of freedom; and

WHEREAS, after the fall of Saigon, millions of Vietnamese and other Southeast Asian people left the region to resettle elsewhere; an estimated 1.2 million refugees settled in the United States between 1975 and 1998; and

WHEREAS, per the [2020 census](#) there are more than 140,000 residences of Santa Clara County that identify as Vietnamese. This is the second largest population of Vietnamese outside of Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, in the 2023-24 school year, the California Department of Education's Dataquest reported there were over 72,000 students that identified as Asian (Pacific Islander and Filipino are separate data points) enrolled in Santa Clara County; and

WHEREAS, the vast majority of Vietnamese Americans recognize and embrace the flag of the former Republic of Vietnam, also known as the Vietnamese Heritage and Freedom Flag, comprising of three horizontal stripes of red upon a field of gold; and

WHEREAS, the Vietnamese Heritage and Freedom Flag represents the long history and culture of Vietnam, and many Vietnamese Americans continue to remember and honor this flag as a symbol of their struggle for freedom, human rights and democracy; and

WHEREAS, the City of San José has long adopted and repeatedly affirmed its recognition of the flag of the former Republic of Vietnam to be known as the Vietnamese Heritage and Freedom Flag; and as the official flag of the Vietnamese American Community in San José; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Board of Education and the County Superintendent of Schools recognize and honor the contributions of the diverse populations that comprise the tapestry of the county; and

WHEREAS, the [National Center on Safe Supportive Learning Environments](#) reports, sense of belonging refers to the extent to which students feel personally accepted, included, and supported at school, and includes school-based experiences, students' relationships with teachers and peers, and students' general feelings about school; and

WHEREAS, research shows that students with a strong sense of belonging are more likely to be engaged in school and perform well academically; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Clara County Board of Education and the County Superintendent of Schools do hereby adopt this resolution to acknowledge April 30, 2025, as the 50th anniversary of the end of the Fall of Saigon and acknowledge the contributions of Vietnamese Americans throughout our community.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the County Board of Education at a meeting held on May 21, 2025, by the following vote:

AYES: Jessica Speiser, Raeena Lari, Don Rocha, Maimona Afzal Berta, Victoria Chon, Jorge Pacheco, Tara Sreekrishnan

NOES: none

ABSTAIN: none

ABSENT: none



Maimona Afzal Berta, President
Santa Clara County Board of Education



Dr. David M. Toston, Sr.
County Superintendent of Schools

Vietnamese Heritage and Freedom Flag

