

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING NATIONAL ASIAN-AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION No. 2464-1

WHEREAS, the month of May is recognized as National Asian-American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month to honor the contributions of people who are of Asian and Pacific Islander descent in the United States. In 1992, May was designated as AAPI Heritage Month by the United States Congress; and

WHEREAS, National Asian-American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month is celebrated in May to honor May 7, 1843, the anniversary of the immigration of the first Japanese immigrants to the United States. Additionally, it honors Chinese immigrants who played a critical role in completing the transcontinental railroad in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders, the largest racial/ethnic group in Santa Clara County, comprise 30 percent of the youth population and 39 percent of the overall population; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) has established a partnership with the Asian Pacific American Leadership Institute and the California Association for Asian and Pacific American Islander Educator Organization. Its leaders participate in the Asian-American and Pacific Islander Educators Network Group (AAPIEN), which supports Santa Clara County educators with tools and resources to cultivate inclusive, affirming, and equitable school environments for every Asian-American and Pacific Islander student, family, and staff member in Santa Clara County schools; and

WHEREAS, the AAPI Educators Network created a toolkit for educators in grades K-12 using an asset-based approach to construct the content based on the rich local histories, experiences, wisdom, and knowledge held within the AAPI community across Santa Clara County. The AAPI Educator Toolkit incorporates information on Asian-American and Pacific Islander student data in Santa Clara County, student and community voices, the value of education to the AAPI community, resources for healthy identity development, and opportunities to understand the culture and the community students live in; and

WHEREAS, in collaboration with the Orange County Department of Education, the SCCOE assisted in the introduction of curriculum that supports inclusive and culturally sustaining instruction. Through two conferences, the Cambodian American Studies Conference and the Vietnamese American Studies Conference, educators and the greater community participated in curricula that could enhance or support course development in classrooms; 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 recognize the month of May as National Asian-American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

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