

RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING AND HONORING NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH
2019 THEME: A HISTORY OF SERVING OUR NATION

SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION No. 2248-1

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) is honored to join citizens throughout the country in recognizing September 15, 2019, as the start of National Hispanic Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, every year, since 1968, from September 15 to October 15 our country has celebrated Hispanic culture and contributions to our community and nation; and

WHEREAS, the 2019 theme for National Hispanic Heritage Month: *A History of Serving Our Nation*, brings focus to the essential contributions made by the Hispanic Americans in all aspects of the formation of our country; and

WHEREAS, this is an opportunity to share the historical contributions of Hispanic Americans that have significantly impacted education. Pioneers such as Gonzalo Mendez whose groundbreaking case Mendez V. Westminster paved the way for equality in the school system. Throughout the year, we honor the contributions of Hispanic Americans in our history as well as celebrating the contributions of Hispanic Americans who serve our communities and schools every day; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic American leaders fought for the rights of laborers; including labor leaders and civil rights activists Cesar Chavez and Dolores Clara Fernández Huerta, co-founders of the National Farmworkers Association, which later became the United Farm Workers (UFW); and

WHEREAS, influential Hispanic American leaders have roots in Santa Clara County, including former San Jose councilwoman and Santa Clara County Supervisor, Blanca Alvarado; former San Jose Mayor and current President of the Hispanic Foundation of Silicon Valley, Ron Gonzales; Mexican band Los Tigres del Norte; and ice skating champion Rudy Galindo; and

WHEREAS, in Santa Clara County, Hispanic/Latinx students make up 38.4-percent of the student population and represent the largest racial/ethnic group among the state's child population; and

WHEREAS, to support Hispanic/Latinx students, the SCCOE has fostered strong partnerships in the community, including partnering with Silicon Valley Education Foundation (SVEF) in activities such as the Advancing Latinx Achievement and Success (ALAS) student conference. This biennial event brings Latinx students from throughout Santa Clara County together for a half-day of learning about and exposure to college. In addition, the SCCOE collaborates with SVEF Eastside Alliance to promote and provide training for culturally relevant math instruction leading to increased math scores for Hispanic/Latino children; and

WHEREAS, other partnerships such as the Hispanic Education Foundation of Silicon Valley, which provides support to students and families through programs such as Latinos in technology, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM), parent engagement, and leadership development. In partnership with the Hispanic Education Foundation of Silicon Valley, the SCCOE sponsored the printing of the 2018 Silicon Valley Latino Report Card, a publication that highlights the inequities facing Latinos in the region in the areas of education, health, financial stability, housing, and the environment; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE in its continued effort to honor National Hispanic Heritage Month and to enhance equity and diversity, remains dedicated to providing resources and programming for Spanish speaking communities; offer translation services and training for teachers, schools, and school districts; continue recruitment efforts to attract diverse educators into the teaching profession; promote multilingual education through our Multilingual Education Services and involvement with the California Association of Bilingual Education (CABE), and continue to support safe schools and resources for undocumented students; and

WHEREAS, in resonance with the 2019 theme of *“A History of Serving Our Nation”*, the Santa Clara County Office of Education recognizes the significant contributions and considerable advances that Hispanic Americans have made, and continue to make each and every day in our community, state and the world, as leaders, politicians, educators, and public servants.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Clara County Board of Education and County Superintendent of Schools proclaim September 15, 2019, as the beginning of National Hispanic Heritage Month.

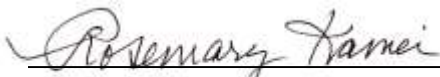
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the County Board of Education at a meeting held on September 4, 2019, by the following vote:

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

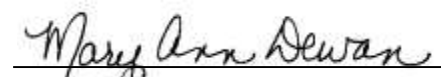
NOES: -none-

ABSTAIN: -none-

ABSENT: Vice President Song



Rosemary Kamei, President
Santa Clara County Board of Education



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