



**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING FRED KOREMATSU DAY OF CIVIL LIBERTIES AND THE CONSTITUTION**

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**RESOLUTION No. 2576-1**

**WHEREAS**, January 30, 2026, is designated as Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution, recognizing the extraordinary civil rights activist and advocate; and

**WHEREAS**, Fred T. Korematsu was born in Oakland, California, on January 30, 1919, to Japanese immigrant parents. His refusal to enter Japanese internment camps during World War II, his subsequent arrest and conviction, and the issues raised by the United States Supreme Court Case, *Korematsu v. United States*, stand as civil rights advocacy landmarks; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2011, the State of California passed the Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution Bill, marking the first time in the United States that a day was named after an Asian American of Japanese ancestry; and

**WHEREAS**, the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters, in partnership with the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE), honors Mr. Korematsu's legacy through promotion of civic engagement among youth with activities such as voter pre-registration, education campaigns, and school partnerships; and

**WHEREAS**, programs such as the [State Seal of Civic Engagement](#) encourage meaningful participation in civic life, further strengthening youth involvement in democracy. Research continues to show that engaging students early on in civic education significantly increases the likelihood of their active participation in future elections; and

**WHEREAS**, to amplify student voice, the Santa Clara County Board of Education includes a student board member from a SCCOE program. On September 21, 2022, in alignment with a new state law, the board welcomed its first student board member; and

**WHEREAS**, social justice issues continue to be at the forefront of the country's consciousness and our local communities. The life of Fred T. Korematsu can be a valuable instructional tool when teaching our youth about civil rights, advocacy, and civic engagement; 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 January 30, 2026, as Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the County Board of Education at a meeting held on December 17, 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



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Maimona Afzal Berta, President  
Santa Clara County Board of Education



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