



RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND HONORING LUNAR NEW YEAR

SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION No: 2293-3

WHEREAS, during January and February, countries across the world celebrate and honor the Lunar New Year. The Lunar New Year is celebrated in China, Vietnam, Korea, Indonesia, and many other Asian countries and communities; and

WHEREAS, the Lunar New Year is an important holiday marking the first new moon of the year. Each year is associated with one of the 12 animals in the Chinese zodiac. This year celebrates the year of the tiger, which symbolizes self-confidence, bravery, great willpower, and strength; and

WHEREAS, Lunar New Year is a time to reunite with family, recognize traditions, honor ancestors, celebrate the past year, and invite good luck and prosperity for the new year; and

WHEREAS, it has been celebrated in California since 1858 when early Chinese settlers shared their vibrant culture with the local community. Various communities and organizations host festivals to share and highlight an important celebration in their communities; and

WHEREAS, in Santa Clara County, people who identify as Asian are part of the largest racial or ethnic group for the first time, representing 38.9% of the county's 2020 population of nearly 2 million. Thirty percent of Santa Clara County student population are of Asian descent; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education continues to support the Asian American and Pacific Islander community within the organization through programs such as the Asian American and Pacific Islander Educators Network (AAPIEN) and Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics (LEAP), a national nonprofit organization that cultivates a pipeline of Asian American and Pacific Islander leaders. LEAP leaders and members of the AAPIEN participate in professional development, which is facilitated by SCCOE staff, where they are encouraged to aim for leadership roles and hone and strengthen leadership skills. Participation in these programs encourage educators from SCCOE and other educational institutions to share and celebrate their lived experiences and culture; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Clara County Board of Education and the County Superintendent of Schools recognize and honor the Lunar New Year from February 1 to February 15 in 2022 and the tremendous contributions made by those of Asian descent; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Santa Clara County Board of Education and County Superintendent of Schools encourage schools in Santa Clara County to honor and celebrate the Lunar New Year.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the County Board of Education at a meeting held on February 2, 2022, by the following vote:

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

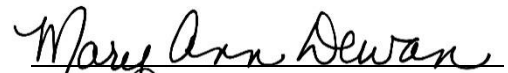
NOES: none

ABSTAIN: none

ABSENT: Trustee Kamei



Peter Ortiz, President
Santa Clara County Board of Education



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