

Mountain View Los Altos High School District

**Resolution No. 21-31
Asian American and Pacific Islander
Heritage Month May 2021**

WHEREAS, in 1977, Congress introduced a House resolution to proclaim the first 10 days of May as Asian Pacific Heritage Week, a celebration of Asians and Pacific Islanders in the United States; and

WHEREAS, in October 1978, President Jimmy Carter signed a joint resolution designating this as an annual celebration, which we now know as Asian Pacific Heritage Week; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, May was chosen to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese to the United States, which was on May 1843, and to mark the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869, in which the majority of the workers who laid the tracks were Chinese immigrants; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, Congress voted to expand Asian Pacific Heritage from a week to a month-long celebration and in May 1992, the month of May was permanently designated as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, studies have found that the academic needs of Asian American and Pacific Islander students are frequently overlooked; and

WHEREAS, understanding Asian and Pacific Islander history is an important part of celebrating Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have endured and overcome hardship and heartache. In the earliest years, tens of thousands of Gold Rush pioneers, coal miners, transcontinental railroad builders, as well as farm and orchard laborers, were subject to unjust working conditions, prejudice, and discrimination—yet they excelled; and

WHEREAS, even in the darkness of the Exclusion Act and Japanese Internment, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have persevered, providing for their families and creating opportunities for their children; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge these Americans for their contributions to government, industry and commerce, agriculture, science, literature, and the arts; and

WHEREAS, California is one of the states with the largest Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders population; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge the historical and cultural contributions of Asian Pacific Americans in the development of the State of California; and

WHEREAS, the diversity of these groups include Asian Indian, Bengali, Burmese, Cambodian, Chinese, Filipino, Guamanian, Hawaiian, Hmong, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Lao, Malayan, Okinawan, Pakistani, Samoan, Thai, Vietnamese, and others; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Trustees of the Mountain View Los Altos High School District that May 2021 is designated as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month and encourages all schools to commemorate this occasion with appropriate instructional activities to recognize the countless contributions that Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have made in helping our nation.

Passed and adopted by the Mountain View Los Altos Board of Trustees by the following vote on April 26, 2021.

Ayes: _____

Noes: _____

Abstain: _____

Absent: _____

Dr. Nellie Meyer
Superintendent
Mountain View Los Altos High School District