

April 16, 2024

APPROVED: DD:br

Board Meeting – April 16, 2024

Item VI. Consent Calendar Recommendations

F. Adoption of Board Resolution No. 52 to Recognize Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, May 2024

The Superintendent recommends that the County Board adopt Resolution No. 52 as part of the regular County Board meeting on April 16, 2024; and further proclaims May 2024 as Asian American and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Heritage Month and call upon communities to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities to celebrate and learn about AANHPI history, people and cultures; and to support efforts to combat hate toward AANHPIs by providing instructional resources, relevant research, resources and promising practices to make a significant impact on the lives and futures of AANHPI students.

Resolution No. 52 is attached.

**Next Steps:**

- Support the Asian American, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (AANHPI) Equity and Social Justice Action team to collaborate with the AAPI Heritage group to elevate the voices and needs of AANHPI staff at the Los Angeles County Office of Education to create a more inclusive work environment.
- Invite school districts to participate in the Ethnic Studies Symposium Series: Asian American and Pacific Islander Studies at the Chinese American Museum on May 7th, 2024.
- Provide support to districts to implement ethnic studies while intentionally highlighting the contribution of the Asian American, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders community.
- Host a virtual event where LACOE staff are invited to learn about Thai culture and honor Asian American, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islander students with a scholarship luncheon on May 20<sup>th</sup> 2024.

**BOARD RESOLUTION  
NO. 52: 2023-24**

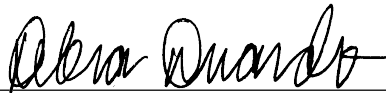
**Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (AANHPI) Heritage Month**

- WHEREAS** Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (AANHPI) make our county, state and nation more vibrant through diversity of cultures, languages and traditions; and
- WHEREAS** this diversity of contributions has enriched American culture and society; and
- WHEREAS** AANHPIs are deeply rooted in U.S. history, helping build and unite our nation – from laying railroad tracks, tilling fields and starting businesses, to caring for our loved ones and honorably serving our nation in uniform; and
- WHEREAS** this May, during AANHPI Heritage Month, we recognize the history and achievements of AANHPIs – and in the midst of pain and fear, we also reflect on the tradition of leadership, resilience and courage shown by AANHPI communities, and recommit to the struggle for AANHPI equity; and
- WHEREAS** we also celebrate and honor the invaluable contributions the AANHPI communities have made to our culture and the arts, law, science and technology, sports and public service; and
- WHEREAS** in spite of the strength shown and successes achieved, the American dream remains out of reach for far too many AANHPI families; AANHPI communities face systemic barriers to economic justice, health equity, educational attainment and personal safety; and
- WHEREAS** Asian American residents of Los Angeles County and elsewhere continue to report disturbing incidents of hate against them and their families, including the bullying of their children; and
- WHEREAS** we need to show solidarity with AANHPI communities in condemning, denouncing and preventing these acts of hate and look for opportunities to heal together and fight against the racism and xenophobia that still exists in this country; and
- WHEREAS** Present-day inequities faced by AANHPI communities are rooted in our nation’s history of exclusion, discrimination, racism and xenophobia against Asian Americans; AANHPIs have endured a long history of injustice - including the Page Act of 1875, the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, the incarceration of Japanese American citizens during World War II, the murder of Vincent Chin, the mass shooting of Southeast Asian refugee children in 1989, and the targeting of South Asian Americans, especially those who are Muslim, Hindu or Sikh, after the national tragedy of 9/11; and
- WHEREAS** the Los Angeles County Office of Education’s support for equity, inclusion and belonging for people of all races, national origins and ethnicities is critical to guaranteeing the safety and security of all people; and

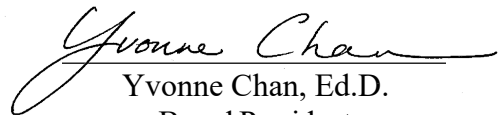
**WHEREAS** the Los Angeles County Office of Education and the schools and school districts within Los Angeles County should combat racism, xenophobia and intolerance against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and work to ensure that all members of AAPI communities— no matter their background, the language they speak or their religious beliefs — are treated with dignity and equity; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Los Angeles County Board of Education and the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools hereby proclaim May 2023 as Asian American and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Heritage Month and call upon communities to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities to celebrate and learn about AANHPI history, people and cultures; and to support efforts to combat hate toward AANHPIs by providing instructional resources, relevant research, resources and promising practices to make a significant impact on the lives and futures of AANHPI students.

**ADOPTED** this 16th day of April, 2024, by the Los Angeles County Board of Education in Downey, California.



Debra Duardo, M.S.W., Ed.D.  
Superintendent



Yvonne Chan, Ed.D.  
Board President