APPROVED: DD:br

Board Meeting – December 17, 2024

Item VI. Consent Calendar Recommendations

E. Adoption of Board Resolution No. 30 to Recognize January 27 as International Holocaust Remembrance Day

> The Superintendent recommends that the County Board adopt Resolution No. 30 as part of the regular County Board meeting on DATE; and further recognize January 27, 2025 as International Holocaust Remembrance Day and encourage communities to observe this day with appropriate programs and activities that commemorate the victims of the Holocaust and educate about the dangers of antisemitism, hatred, bigotry and prejudice.

Board Resolution No. 30 follows on the next page.

Next Steps:

- Send out LACOE Communication and resources to the 80 districts and charter networks to encourage districts, schools and community organizations to observe this day with appropriate programs and activities.
- Provide support to districts to implement educational programs that include the history and lessons of the Holocaust, including educational materials and field trip opportunities in partnership with organizations such as the Holocaust Museum of Los Angeles and the Museum of Tolerance.
- Combat misinformation and defamation towards the Jewish Community as it relates to the Holocaust, including Holocaust denial.

BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 30: 2024-2025

- **WHEREAS,** International Holocaust Remembrance Day is observed on January 27 each year to honor the memory of the six million Jews and millions of other victims who were murdered or persecuted during the Holocaust; and
- WHEREAS, the Holocaust was a state-sponsored and systematic persecution and murder of six million Jews by the Nazi regime and its collaborators, which also targeted other groups, including Roma, people with disabilities, political dissidents, LGBTQIA+ individuals and others; and
- WHEREAS, the Holocaust is a stark reminder of the consequences of hatred, bigotry prejudice, and it is essential to educate future generations about the dangers of intolerance and the importance of standing up against injustice in all its forms; and
- WHEREAS, the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) is deeply committed to fostering a safe, affirming, inclusive and respectful environment for all students, staff and community members and stands firmly against antisemitism and all forms of identity-based hate and violence; and
- WHEREAS, as a county office of education, LACOE is uniquely positioned to amplify the critical role of public education in fostering community in our beautifully diverse region, championing cultural competency, uplifting and celebrating diverse forms of identity, combatting othering and cultivating belonging; and
- **WHEREAS**, it is critical to acknowledge and commemorate the history and lessons of the Holocaust to promote understanding, tolerance and human rights; and
- WHEREAS, Los Angeles is home to the second largest Jewish community in the United States, with more than half a million Jewish people calling our county home; and
- WHEREAS, Los Angeles' Jewish community is diverse, with about half of Jewish households including someone born abroad or whose parents were born abroad, primarily from Latin America, Israel, Iran and the former Soviet Union. Nearly 20% identify as Sephardi or Mizrahi and about 6% identify as Jews of color.
- WHEREAS, while a <u>recent report</u> published by the California Department of Justice demonstrated an overall decrease in reported hate related incidents from 2022 to 2023, hate crime events involving religious bias increased by 30%

in 2023, with Anti-Jewish bias events rising by 52.9% and Anti-Islamic (Muslim) bias events rising by 60%. Further, hate crime events involving sexual orientation bias increased by 3.6% and Anti-LGBTQ+ bias events rose by 86.4%.

- WHEREAS, according to the Anti-Defamation League's 2023 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, there has been an alarming 135% increase in antisemitic incidents in public and private K-12 schools nationwide in the year since the October 7, 2023 attack on Israel.
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Los Angeles County Board of Education recognizes January 27, 2025, as International Holocaust Remembrance Day and encourages all schools and community members to commemorate the victims of the Holocaust and educate about the dangers of antisemitism, hatred, bigotry and prejudice with appropriate programs and activities.
- **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that LACOE commits to incorporating educational resources and activities that highlight the history and lessons of the Holocaust into the curriculum during International Holocaust Remembrance Day and throughout the year.
- ADOPTED this 17th day of December 2024, by the Los Angeles County Board of Education in Downey, California.

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

Superintendent

<u>Jf an lug</u> <u>F.</u> <u>Julium</u> Stanley L. Johnson, Jr., Ph.D.

Board President