

February 18, 2025

APPROVED: DD:br

Board Meeting – February 18, 2025

Item. VI. Consent Calendar Recommendations

D. Adoption of Board Resolution 40: to Recognize Cesar Chavez Day, March 31, 2025

The Superintendent recommends that the County Board adopt Board Resolution No. 40 as part of the regular County Board meeting on February 18, 2025; and further recommends that the Board recognize the contributions and accomplishments of Cesar Chavez and encourages districts and schools to conduct appropriate school activities in observance of his birthday on March 31st.

Board Resolution No. 40 is shown on the following page.

NEXT STEPS:

- Send out LACOE Communication to the 80 districts to encourage districts, schools and community organizations to observe this day with appropriate programs and activities.
- Invite school districts to participate in professional development opportunities and access materials to build content knowledge of the subject and acquire instructional strategies to teach the topic effectively in classrooms.
- Provide support to districts to implement ethnic studies with intentionality of including the history and contributions of the group identified.
- **Events**
 - Cesar Chavez Family Day, March 23rd.
¡Viva la Causa! ¡Huelga! ¡Lucha! Learn about the fight for farm labor rights through a celebration of activist and labor leader, César Chávez. Enjoy music and dance, along with art and garden workshops. Location: LA Plaza De Cultura y Artes A community hub where people congregate to celebrate Latinx culture and history through transformative music, exhibits, dance and multigenerational art making. 501 N. Main Street Los Angeles Ca. 90012
<https://www.twinkl.com/event/cesar-chavez-day-usa-2025>
- **Books for elementary students:**
 - **Harvesting Hope: The Story of Cesar Chavez** by Kathleen Krull (Author), Yuyi Morales (Illustrator)
In this Pura Belpre award–winning picture book, illustrated by Caldecott Honree Yuyi Morales, acclaimed author

Kathleen Krull celebrates Latinx civil rights leader Cesar Chavez. An inspirational book about resistance and hope. When Cesar Chavez led a 340-mile peaceful protest march through California, he ignited a cause and improved the lives of thousands of migrant farmworkers. But Cesar wasn't always a leader. As a boy, he was shy and teased at school. His family slaved in the fields for barely enough money to survive. Cesar knew things had to change and he thought that—maybe—he could help change them. So he took charge. He spoke up. And an entire country listened.

- **Who Was Cesar Chavez?** by Dana Meachen Rau (Author) , Who HQ (Author), Ted Hammond (Illustrator)
When he was young, Cesar and his Mexican American family toiled in the fields as migrant farm workers. He knew all too well the hardships farm workers faced. His public-relations approach to unionism and aggressive but nonviolent tactics made the farm workers' struggle a moral cause with nationwide support. Along with Dolores Huerta, he cofounded the National Farmworkers Association. His dedication to his work earned him numerous friends and supporters, including Robert Kennedy and Jesse Jackson.
- **A Picture Book of Cesar Chavez** by David A. Adler (Author, Michael S. Adler (Author), Marie Olofsdotter (Illustrator)
¡Sí se puede! Learn all about the Mexican American activist who worked tirelessly to promote better conditions for workers. This clear and concise biography with folksy illustrations details the amazing life of American labor leader and civil rights activist Cesar Chavez. As a child in California during the Great Depression, Cesar picked produce with his family to make ends meet. The work was backbreaking, the pay was low and many families, including his, were homeless. But to Cesar, dignity always meant more than money.
- Books for middle and high school students:
 - **Who Was Cesar Chavez?** by Dana Meachen Rau (Author), Who HQ (Author), Ted Hammond (Illustrator)
When he was young, Cesar and his Mexican American family toiled in the fields as migrant farm workers. He knew all too well the hardships farm workers faced. His public-relations approach to unionism and aggressive but nonviolent tactics made the farm workers' struggle a moral cause with nationwide support. Along with Dolores Huerta, he cofounded the National Farmworkers Association. His dedication to his work earned him numerous.

- **The Words of Cesar Chavez** (Historical Perspectives: In Their Own Words) by Jagger Youssef
The life story of Cesar Chavez, one of the most influential labor leaders of the twentieth century, resonates today. In this significant biography, readers will learn about the man who rose from migrant field worker to become a champion of the voiceless. The narrative interweaves Chavez's own powerful words throughout accessible biographical text. Historical photographs bring the fascinating figure to life, while interesting sidebars and fact boxes offer more background information about both the times in which he lived and his important work.

BOARD RESOLUTION
No. 40: 2024-25
Cesar Chavez Day, March 31, 2025

WHEREAS, Cesar Chavez was a visionary leader who led the first successful farmworkers' union in American history. He moved farmworkers to stand together for their rights and led our nation toward a fuller recognition of the dignity of work; and

WHEREAS, Cesar Chavez's organization, the United Farm Workers, fought for dignity, respect, humane living conditions, fair wages and other rights and protections for farmworkers; and

WHEREAS, he was also a great humanitarian who influenced and inspired millions of Americans from all walks of life to seek social justice and civil rights for the poor and disenfranchised; and

WHEREAS, Cesar Chavez said, "Real education should consist of drawing the goodness and the best out of our own students. What better book can there be than the book of humanity;" and

WHEREAS, on March 31 we celebrate the birthday of Cesar Chavez and honor his contributions to workers' rights and social justice, as well as his selfless service to others; and

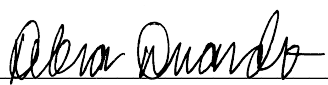
WHEREAS, in 1994, Chavez was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor. In 2014, President Obama declared March 31st as Cesar Chavez Day; and

WHEREAS, in continued efforts to honor the life and legacy of Cesar Chavez and to promote social justice and equity that he championed, LACOE remains dedicated to empowering schools in Los Angeles County to support immigrant and refugee students and their families through our Immigrant Relations Office; Multilingual Academic Support Unit and Migrant Education Program. In doing so, LACOE ensures that the dignity and humanity of all students are safeguarded regardless of where they or their parents were born; and

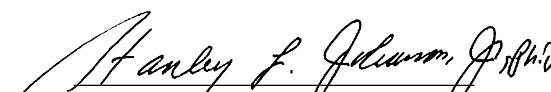
WHEREAS, the Los Angeles County Office of Education recognizes the contributions and accomplishments of Cesar Chavez and encourages districts and schools to conduct appropriate school activities in observance of his birthday on March 31st:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Los Angeles County Board of Education proclaims March 31, 2025 as Cesar Chavez Day.

ADOPTED this 18th day of February 2025 by the Los Angeles County Board of Education, in Downey, California.



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



Stanley L. Johnson, Jr., Ph.D.
Board President