



SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 10.1

Meeting Date: February 6, 2025

Subject: Resolution No. 3475: Black History Month, February 2025

- ☐ Information Item Only
- ☐ Approval on Consent Agenda
- ☐ Conference (for discussion only)
- ☐ Conference/First Reading (Action Anticipated: _____)
- ☐ Conference/Action
- ☒ Action
- ☐ Public Hearing

Division: Academic Office, Curriculum & Instruction Department

Recommendation: None

Background/Rationale:

February has been designated as National Black History Month, a time to honor the significant contributions of Black/African Americans to society both nationally and globally. This Resolution emphasizes the importance of a culturally relevant curriculum that highlights these contributions while striving to deepen understanding of the systemic challenges and disproportionate hardships faced by many Black/African American students and community members today. It calls for SCUSD to address these disparities through thoughtful policies, programming, stakeholder collaboration, and data-driven outcomes, fostering greater equity within our schools and the broader community.

Financial Considerations: None

LCAP Goal(s): Goal 2: Improving Academic Outcomes, Goal 3: Creating a Welcoming and Safe Culture & Climate for students/families

Documents Attached:

Resolution No. 3475

Estimated Time of Presentation: 10 minutes

Submitted by: Erin Findley, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction, Danny Rolleri, Director of Professional Learning, Culture & Climate

Approved by: Lisa Allen, Superintendent

**SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

RESOLUTION NO. 3475

**RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL BLACK HISTORY MONTH,
FEBRUARY 2025**

WHEREAS, National Black History Month was founded to address the omissions and biases in historical narratives, ensuring the inclusion of the rich and diverse stories of Black/African American individuals and communities; and

WHEREAS, Black History encompasses far more than the era of slavery, representing a legacy of resilience, innovation, achievement, and the celebrated and overlooked contributions of Black/African American individuals and groups - including scientists, inventors, activists, educators, farmers, homemakers, elected officials, clergy, service members, entertainers, athletes, and pioneers of land, sea, and space - that have profoundly shaped the fabric of our society and the world at large; and

WHEREAS, the 2024 California School Dashboard results show significant disproportionality in the outcomes for SCUSD's Black/African American students compared to all District students; specifically the District's graduation rate is 85% for all students and only 76% for Black/African American students; the District's suspension rate is 6% for all students and 15% for Black/African American students; the District's College and Career Indicator shows that 32% of all students are prepared for post-secondary college and career opportunities, but only 16% of our Black/African American students are prepared; the Chronic Absenteeism rate for all students is 25%, but 44% for Black/African American students; and finally, Black/African American students were 91 points below standard in ELA compared to 33 points below standard for all students and 132 points below standard in Math compared to 64 points below standard for all students; and

WHEREAS, _ within SCUSD, there were a total of 6,175 students who received Special Education services during the 2023-24 school year, of these 17.4% are Black/African American students. Only 11% of the district's total enrollment are Black/African American students, which highlights significant disproportionately for Black/African American students receiving Special Education services; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, the Sacramento City Unified School District Board of Education adopted 13 recommendations at the advisement of the African American Task Force (now the Black/African American Advisory Board); and

WHEREAS, in 2024, the SCUSD Board of Education settled a lawsuit with the Black Parallel School Board agreeing to implement an Action Plan containing 22 directives that address ongoing disparities in the achievement and treatment of Black/African American students and Black/African American students with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, during Black History Month and throughout the year, the District is committed to addressing the recommendations provided by the Black/African American Advisory Board and the directives required by the Black Parallel School Board Action Plan. As such, the District will strive to foster inclusivity and equity by creating anti-biased, anti-racist working and learning environments,

exploring Black History, and providing culturally responsive educational experiences that serve to close health, opportunity, and achievement disparities for Black students, employees, and families; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Sacramento City Unified School District Board of Education is unwavering in its support for policies, practices, and curricula that honor, celebrate, and respect the diverse histories, cultures, and contributions of Black/African American students, staff, and their families and hereby recognizes the month of February as Black History Month.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education encourages all staff, students, and community members to actively honor and celebrate National Black History Month through meaningful and culturally responsive activities, events, and educational programming that illuminate the achievements and contributions of Black/African American people during this dedicated time of reflection and celebration.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board expects educators, throughout the school year, to actively incorporate diverse perspectives into their teaching and present a comprehensive and accurate narrative of Black History - one that goes beyond stereotypes and the singular focus on slavery. This narrative shall include the myriad stories of Black resilience, triumph, and excellence, highlighting contributions across all fields and throughout history ensuring that students are exposed to a well-rounded understanding of Black history. This commitment fosters an environment where students and educators regularly engage with and celebrate the diverse contributions and experiences of Black/African American individuals and communities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education commits to a focus on the Black African/American Advisory Board recommendation to increase 3rd grade literacy proficiency of Black/African American students, with the goal of raising proficiency from 16% to 20% by the end of the 2025-2026 school year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education is committed to implementing a district-wide Multi-Tiered System of Supports that addresses systemic inequities and provides equitable, tiered supports for Black/African American students and Black/African American students with disabilities as outlined by the 2024 Black Parallel School Board Action Plan. This includes developing infrastructure, resources, and professional learning that builds district, site, and educator capacity to provide high-quality, culturally and linguistically responsive instruction and targeted interventions to meet the unique needs of our Black/African American students.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District strongly opposes any laws, policies and practices that perpetuate harmful stereotypes, limit the teaching of Black history and experiences, or restrict the delivery of culturally responsive education. The District is steadfast in its commitment to opposing any policies or legislation that undermine the celebration, understanding, and accurate portrayal of Black/African American heritage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Sacramento City Unified School District Board of Education on this 6th day of February, 2025, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Lisa Allen
Secretary of the Board of Education

Jasjit Singh
President of the Board of Education