San Leandro Unified School District Board of Education
San Leandro, California

RESOLUTION NO. 14-05
PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY 2014 AS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

WHEREAS, the month of February is officially celebrated as Black History Month, which dates back to 1926, when Dr. Carter G. Woodson set aside a special period of time in February to recognize the heritage and achievements of Black Americans/African Americans;

WHEREAS, Americans of African descent have helped develop our nation in countless ways, those recognized, unrecognized and unrecorded;

WHEREAS, Black history reflects a determined spirit of perseverance and cultural pride in its struggle to share equally in the opportunities of a nation founded upon the principles of freedom and liberty for all people;

WHEREAS, this year's theme, "Civil Rights in America," chosen by the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, marks the 50th anniversary of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, and chronicles the important milestones by African Americans and others in the battle for civil rights and equal treatment under the law;

WHEREAS, in the face of injustices, United States citizens of good will and of all races distinguished themselves with their commitment to the noble ideals upon which the United States was founded and courageously fought for the rights and freedom of African Americans;

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. lived and died to make real these noble ideals;

WHEREAS, Barack Hussein Obama was elected the 45th President of the United States, making him the first African American chief executive breaking through racial barriers in politics in this country;

WHEREAS, the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass inspired the creation of Negro History Week, the precursor to Black History Month.

WHEREAS, the history and contributions of African American citizens have been consistently overlooked, misinterpreted, and undervalued in the curriculum of public education;

WHEREAS, the History-Social Science Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten through Grade Twelve states that the history curriculum of community, state, region, nation, and world must reflect the experiences of men and women and of different racial, religious, and ethnic groups which is integrated at every grade level;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this 4th day of February, 2014, that the San Leandro Unified School District Board of Education proclaims the month of February as Black History month; recognizes the contributions of African Americans in the Nation's history; encourages the continued celebration of this month to provide an opportunity for all schools to learn more about the past and to better understand the African Americans' experiences that have shaped the Nation; and recognizes that ethnic and racial diversity of the United States enriches and strengthens the Nation.

RESOLUTION NO. 14-05 PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Board of the San Leandro Unified School District on the 4th day of February, 2014.

Lance James, Board President

Mike McLaughlin, Ed.D., Superintendent