SAN LEANDRO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

SAN LEANDRO, CA

**RESOLUTION NO. 16-04**

# PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY 2016 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;**

**WHEREAS**, over the past century, African American life, history, and culture have become major forces in the United States and the world. In 1915, few could have imagined that African Americans in music, art, and literature would become appreciated by the global community. Fewer still could have predicted the prominence achieved by African Americans, as well as other people of African descent, in shaping world politics, war, and diplomacy. A century later, few can deny the centrality of African Americans in the making of American history; and

**WHEREAS**, black scholars, artists, athletes, and leaders self-consciously used their talents to change how the world viewed African Americans and gave the world of cornucopia of cultural gifts, including jazz, poetry, and an appreciation of African art. African American athletes dominated individual and team sports transforming baseball, track-and-field, football, boxing, and basketball. In a of social movements, African American activism transformed race relations, challenged American foreign policy, and became the American conscience of human rights; and

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

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

**WHEREAS**, the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASLAH) was founded in 1915 by Carter G. Woodson who labored under the belief that historical truth would crush falsehoods and usher in a new era of equality, opportunity, and racial democracy, and it has been the association's charge for a century, and ASLAH has selected this year's theme, **"Hallowed Grounds: Sites of African American Memories,"** in honor of this milestone, and

**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 12th day of January, 2016, 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 WHEREAS of this month to provide an opportunity for all schools to learn more about the past and to better to 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. 16-04 PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Governing Board of the San Leandro Unified School District on the 12th day of January, 2016.

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Vince J. Rosato, Board President

Mike McLaughlin, Ed.D., Superintendent