San Leandro Unified School District

RESOLUTION NO. 16-11

CESAR E. CHAVEZ DAY

March 31, 2016



WHEREAS, Cesar Estrada Chavez was born on March 31, 1927, and at a young age began his life as a migrant farmer, helping with the support of his family by laboring in the fields and vineyards;

WHEREAS, Cesar Chavez believed that all workers, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, or nationality have the right to fair wages and a safe working environment;

WHEREAS, Cesar Chavez, at considerable risk to his safety and well- being and the financial security of his family, mobilized hundreds of workers to form the National Farm Workers Union, the forerunner of the United Farm Workers of America;

WHEREAS, Cesar Chavez, employed tactics of nonviolence, dignity, forbearance and marathon fasting as he led his fellow union members on a crusade for better working conditions coining the phrase "Si, se puede" "Yes, it can be done," reflecting his conviction that you only fail by giving up the non-violent fight.";

WHEREAS, Cesar Chavez had a passion for education and saw it as a vehicle for transforming lives while stamping out ignorance, poverty and disease;

WHEREAS, Cesar Chavez's selflessness and unwavering belief that all humans should leave the world a better place than they found it makes him an ideal role model for all children;

WHEREAS, Cesar Chavez posthumously received in 1994 the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Bill Clinton, becoming the second Mexican-American to receive the award;

WHEREAS, in 1994 the family of Cesar Chavez and the officers of the United Farm Workers created the Cesar E. Chavez Foundation to "inspire current and future generations by promoting the ideals of Cesar Chavez's life"; and

WHEREAS, Cesar Chavez National Holiday, March 31st, was established by Los Angeles volunteers who organized and led the effort in California that won Cesar Chavez Day, the first legal state holiday and day of service and learning in honor of farm worker leader Cesar Chavez;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the San Leandro Unified School District celebrates March 31st Cesar Chavez Day, and recognizes his selfless dedication for economic justice, civil rights, environmental justice, peace, nonviolence, and empowerment of the poor and disenfranchised, of which our schools promote these ideals through efforts with our *"Season of Service, Period of Peace"* service projects and activities that culminate on Cesar Chavez Day.

RESOLUTION NO. 16-11 PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Board of the San Leandro Unified School District on this 8th day of March, 2016.

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Vince J. Rosato, Board President Mike McLaughlin, Superintendent