2627-09

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF PETALUMA CITY ELEMENTARY AND PETALUMA JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICTS ("PETALUMA CITY SCHOOLS"), DECLARING NOVEMBER AS NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

WHEREAS, Native American people, history, and culture is core to the story of the United States, being the first people to live and steward this land and having profoundly shaped our country's character and our cultural heritage; and

WHEREAS, from generation to generation, Native Americans handed down invaluable cultural knowledge and rich traditions, which continue to thrive in Native American communities across our nation today showing up in cultural revitalization programs, resource protection, and self determination efforts; and

WHEREAS, tribal America has brought to this great country certain values and ideas that have become ingrained in the American spirit: the knowledge that humans can thrive and prosper without destroying the natural environment; the understanding that people from different backgrounds, cultures, religions, and traditions can come together to build a great country; and the awareness that diversity can be a source of strength, rather than division; and

WHEREAS, the state of California is home to nearly 200 Native American tribes, while Sonoma County has five federally recognized tribes within its boundaries - the Cloverdale Rancheria of Pomo Indians, the Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians, the Federated Indians of the Graton Rancheria, the Kashia Band of Pomo Indians of the Stewarts Point Reservation and the Lytton Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians; and

WHEREAS, Petaluma City Schools recognizes that colonial structures of oppression amounted in the death of millions of Native Americans, land dispossession, language and culture loss, diminished Native American knowledge and cultural authority, and has long standing impacts that Native American communities face today; and

WHEREAS, our tribal communities face stark realities, including disproportionately high rates of poverty, unemployment, crime, and disease; and

WHEREAS, The Petaluma City Schools Board of Education recognizes that each students needs an opportunity to understand the common humanity underlying all people; to develop pride in their own identity and heritage, and to understand respect, and accept the identity and heritage of others; and

WHEREAS, the Petaluma City Schools Board of Education is committed to enhancing equity, inclusion, diversity, and partnership and remains dedicated to providing schools and districts with resources and supports to implement the History Social-Science standards and civic engagement, and promote understanding of economics, geography, world and U.S. history, and government in schools; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Petaluma City Schools Board of Education proclaims the month of November as Native American Heritage Month.

The foregoing resolution was introduced by Board Member Quinn who moved its adoption, seconded by Member Paun, and adopted on roll call by the following vote:

CLOUD: Aye PAUN: Aye QUINN: Aye WEBSTER: Aye WILLIAMS: Aye

WHEREUPON, the President declared the above resolution adopted, and SO ORDERED this 20th day of October 2026.

President, Board of Education

ATTEST:

Superintendent