



RESOLUTION NO. 2023-01
VENTURA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

WHEREAS, the history of the United States includes injustices, inequalities, and the denial of basic, fundamental human and civil rights to Black men, women, and children; and

WHEREAS, Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, Booker T. Washington, Jackie Robinson, Thurgood Marshall, Rosa Parks, Malcolm X, Martin Luther King, Jr., and many other Black Americans worked against racism to pave the way for future generations to succeed; and

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

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

WHEREAS, U.S. President Barack Obama stated in the 2011 Presidential Proclamation on National African American History Month that “Knowledge is our strongest tool against injustice, and it is our responsibility to empower every child in America with a world-class education from cradle to career;” and

WHEREAS, Black History Month is an opportunity for all Americans to commemorate the struggles and victories of Black Americans in our history, their invaluable contributions to society, and their unyielding dedication to the overall protection and defense of our nation in matters of both war and peace; and

WHEREAS, the Ventura County Community College District Board of Trustees recognizes that the shameful legacy of the intentional structuring of opportunity, implementation of policies and practices, and assignment of value, based solely on skin color and other physical characteristics, has created unfair disadvantages for Black Americans and people of color that persist today; and

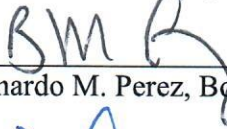
WHEREAS, the Ventura County Community College District Board of Trustees, in June 2020, passed a Resolution affirming its commitment to student success for Black students, which cites the District’s unwavering commitment to diversity and the need to eliminate barriers to equity and create a safe, inclusive environment, where individual and group differences are leveraged for our educational community’s growth; and

WHEREAS, the Ventura County Community College District Board of Trustees, in April 2021, passed a Resolution affirming its commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; and

WHEREAS, the Ventura County Community College District Board of Trustees, in February 2022, passed a Resolution permanently recognizing Black History Month, encouraging its colleges and student organizations to promote historical and cultural awareness by featuring various programs, exhibits, and other relevant activities and by participating in events sponsored by local communities;

NOW, THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Ventura County Community College District hereby recognizes Black History Month and honors the vital role of the Black and African American community in American history, culture, and progress.

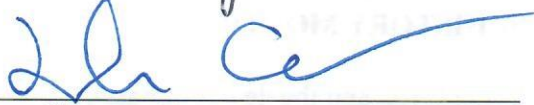
Adopted this 14th day of February 2023.



Bernardo M. Perez, Board Chair



Gabriela Torres, Vice Chair



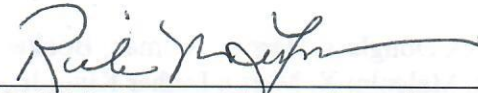
Joshua Chancer, Trustee



Lou Lichtl, Trustee



Stan Mantooh, Trustee



Rick MacLennan, Ph.D., Chancellor