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GLENDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT RESOLUTION NO. 14

RECOGNIZING THE RICH CULTURE, CONTRIBUTIONS, AND VALUE OF OUR BLACK AND AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDENTS, EMPLOYEES, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS

WHEREAS, the Glendale Unified School District believes that we have a special responsibility to understand, and intentionally work to eliminate racism in our curricula, our classroom cultures, and our relationships with our students, our parents/guardians, and each other because our collective future depends on it; and

WHEREAS, the Glendale Unified School District celebrates the diversity of this nation, and that includes the past, present and ongoing contributions of Black and African Americans in this country; and

WHEREAS, schools should be placed for the practice of equity, for the building of understanding, for the promotion of social justice, and for the active engagement of all in creating pathways to freedom and justice for all people; and

WHEREAS, we encourage ongoing critical reflection and courageous conversations to affirm the right of Black and African American students to be treated with respect and dignity; and

WHEREAS, each year, we honor the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on the third Monday in January; and

WHEREAS, Glendale Unified School District, in the spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., believes in the values of action, affirmation, solidarity, and service; and

WHEREAS, in 1975, President Ford issued a message on the observance of Black History Week urging all Americans to "recognize the important contribution made to our nation's life and culture by Black citizens." In 1976, the commemoration of Black history in the United States was expanded to Black History Month, also known as *African American History Month*; and

WHEREAS, *Black and African American History Month* provides an opportunity for all students to better understand the achievements of Black and African Americans, which is important for February, and every month; and

WHEREAS, Black Lives Matter at School Week of Action will take place the week of January 31 - February 4 to incorporate with, and augment, Black and African American History Month; and

WHEREAS, Black and African American History Month and Black Lives Matter at School Week of Action are intended to highlight, uplift and affirm the rich history and contributions of the Black and African American community; to cultivate in Black and African American students a sense of pride, self-worth, and self-love; and to develop a widespread acknowledgement and appreciation for the contributions of Black and African American people in our community; and

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WHEREAS, the theme for 2022 *Black and African American History Month* is "Black Health and Wellness."

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Glendale Unified School District Board of Education welcomes the participation of educators, staff, students, and parents in community-based activities and events related to *Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Black and African American History Month,* and *Black Lives Matter at School Week of Action*.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Glendale Unified School District recognizes the tremendous contributions made by Black and African Americans and reaffirms its commitment to support the social, emotional, and physical needs of all students.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 18th day of January 2022, at a regular meeting of the Glendale Unified School District Board of Education, Los Angeles County, California.

Shant Sahakian, President

Nayiri/Nahabedian, Vice President

Gregory Krikorian, Clerk

Jennifer Ereemon, Member

Dr. Armina Gharpetian Member

Dr. Vivian Ekchian, Superintendent