

PROCLAMATION:

MODESTO CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION RECOGNIZES AND CELEBRATES APRIL 2020 AS “NATIONAL BILINGUAL/MULTILINGUAL LEARNER ADVOCACY MONTH”

WHEREAS the National Association for Bilingual Education has made invaluable contributions to the efforts nationally to advance educational equity and excellence for bilingual/multilingual students, and as part of this effort has initiated the recognition of the month of April as National Bilingual/Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month;

WHEREAS “National Bilingual/Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month” recognizes that bilingual/multilingual learners are one of the fastest growing student populations in U.S. schools, that this group of students brings multiple assets to schools and adds to the rich diversity among students;

WHEREAS “National Bilingual/Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month” is an opportunity to draw attention to the persistent gap between bilingual/multilingual learners and native English-speaking students;

WHEREAS “National Bilingual/Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month” calls on stakeholders at all levels to examine the diverse needs of bilingual/multilingual learners and to build an inclusive and respectful culture;

WHEREAS “National Bilingual/Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month” highlights a commitment to ensure educational equity and access leading these learners to thrive academically and become productive biliterate/multiliterate global citizens;

WHEREAS “National Bilingual/Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month” encourages institutions to adopt policies and practices such as dual language instructional programs that value and use students’ languages and cultural assets to learn high academic content, promote long-term academic achievement, and increase graduation rates;

WHEREAS “National Bilingual/Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month” calls for the need to prepare highly qualified bilingual teachers in all disciplines to address the unique needs of bilingual/multilingual learners in diverse settings;

WHEREAS “National Bilingual/Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month” calls for the need to engage parents and guardians of bilingual/multilingual learners in their student’s educational journey; and

WHEREAS the National Association for Bilingual Education recognizes the significant languages and cultural assets that bilingual/multilingual learners bring to schools;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Modesto City Schools Board of Education does hereby proclaim April 2020 as “National Bilingual/Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month.”

Signed this 30th day of March, 2020.

Dr. Sara Noguchi, Secretary
Board of Education
Modesto City Schools