

# PROCLAMATION:

## MODESTO CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2021 AS NATIONAL BLACK HISTORY MONTH

**WHEREAS**, the theme for Black History Month 2021 is **The Black Family: Representation, Identity and Diversity**; and

**WHEREAS**, African American/Black History Month is an annual observance aimed at recognizing the significant roles African Americans have contributed in our nation's and community's history, through their contributions in arts, entertainment, law, politics, sciences, sports and more; and

**WHEREAS**, the history of African American/Black History Month traces back to 1915, when the "Father of Black History Month," Dr. Carter G. Woodson, founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, which is now known as the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH). Through their diligence and commitment to African American citizens, Dr. Woodson and the ASALH introduced the first Negro History Week in February 1926; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1976, Black History Month was formally adopted to honor and affirm the importance of Black History throughout our American experience, which goes back thousands of years and includes some of the greatest, most advanced and innovative societies in our history that we can all draw inspiration from; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of determination, hard work, and perseverance, African Americans have made valuable and lasting contributions in Modesto, Stanislaus County, the state of California, and the United States, achieving exceptional success in all aspects of society including business, education, politics, science, and the arts; and

**WHEREAS**, Modesto City Schools, as well as the entire Modesto community, are strengthened and enriched by the diversity of cultures and traditions that are an integral part of this great region and our rich, diverse social tapestry; and

**WHEREAS**, Black History Month is a time for all Americans to remember the stories and teachings of those who helped build our nation, took a stance against prejudice to build lives of dignity and opportunity, advanced the cause of civil rights, and strengthened families and communities.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Modesto City Schools Board of Education does hereby proclaim the month of February 2021 as National Black History Month. Staff, students, parents and the community are encouraged to observe, recognize, and celebrate the culture, heritage, and contributions of Black Americans to our country, our state, our cities, and our schools.

Signed this 9<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021.

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