

**SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING DOLORES HUERTA'S  
BIRTHDAY & ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**WHEREAS** Dolores Clara Fernandez Huerta was born on April 10, 1930, in Dawson, New Mexico, and the daughter of Juan and Alicia Fernandez; and

**WHEREAS** Dolores Huerta is arguably the most prominent Mexican-American female labor leader in the United States, is the co-founder with César Chávez of the United Farm Workers of America (UFW); and

**WHEREAS**, during the 1950s, Huerta found her calling as an organizer while serving in the leadership of the Stockton Community Service Organization (CSO), during which time she founded the Agricultural Workers Association (AWA), set up voter registration drives, and pressed local governments for barrio improvements; and

**WHEREAS**, while serving on the CSO, Huerta met César Chávez and, in 1962, the two launched the National Farm Workers Association (which later became the United Farm Workers); and

**WHEREAS** beginning in the 1960s, Huerta lobbied in Sacramento and Washington D.C., organized field strikes, directed UFW boycotts, led farm worker campaigns for political candidates, and has played a major role in the American civil rights movement, and her greatest lobbying and negotiating efforts were demonstrated in securing Aide for Dependent Families (AFDC) and disability insurance for farm workers in the State of California in 1963; and

**WHEREAS** together with César Chávez, Dolores Huerta founded the Robert F. Kennedy Medical Plan, the Juan De La Cruz Farm Worker Pension Fund, the Farm Workers Credit Union, and the National Farm Workers Service Center Inc., a community-based affordable housing and Spanish-language radio communications organization; and

**WHEREAS**, while directing the first National Boycott of California Table Grapes out of New York Huerta came into contact with Gloria Steinem and the burgeoning feminist movement, and she consciously began to challenge gender discrimination within the farm workers' movement; and

**WHEREAS** Dolores Huerta advocated for the participation in the movement by the entire family – the children, women, and men – out in the fields picking, thinning, and hoeing; and  
**WHEREAS** Huerta believed that non-violence was necessary in providing safety for all; and

**WHEREAS** in 2002, Dolores Huerta established the Dolores Huerta Foundation (DHF), which aims to create networks of healthy, organized communities pursuing social justice through systemic and structural transformation; and

**WHEREAS** Dolores Huerta has received numerous awards, among them the California State Senate's Outstanding Labor Leader Award, the ACLU Roger Baldwin Medal of Liberty Award, the Eugene V. Debs Foundation Outstanding American Award, the Ellis Island Medal of Freedom Award, the Consumer's Union Trumpeter's Award, Ms. Magazine's "Woman of the Year" for 1998, the Eleanor Roosevelt Humans Rights Award from President Clinton in 1998, was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame, and served on the Board of Regents of the University of California; and

**WHEREAS** in 2012, President Obama presented Huerta the Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian award in the United States; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education does hereby adopt this Resolution to honor a national civil rights and labor leader in America.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** the that the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education calls upon all our schools and all members of our community to honor the legacy of Dolores Clara Fernandez Huerta as a symbol of hope, equity, and social justice to all.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May 2019 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

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Dr. Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein  
Board President

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Dr. Ben Drati  
Superintendent