

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

**Resolution  
FRED KOREMATSU DAY OF CIVIL LIBERTIES AND THE CONSTITUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the battle for civil liberties has been championed by ordinary Americans who have had the courage to stand up and fight for their basic Constitutional rights; and

**WHEREAS**, Fred T. Korematsu was one of these individuals, who refused to comply with Civilian Exclusion Order 34, based on the federal Executive Order 9066, which imposed strict curfew regulations and required 120,000 Japanese Americans to leave their homes to be incarcerated in American concentration camps during World War II; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Korematsu was arrested and convicted, but fought back because he believed the conviction went against the basic freedoms guaranteed to him by the U.S. Constitution; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Korematsu's conviction was ultimately overturned in 1984; a decision that influenced the US government's passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, which recognized that a grave injustice was done by forced relocation and incarceration of civilian Americans because of wartime prejudice; and

**WHEREAS**, current California law designates a number of days as having special significance, when public schools are encouraged to observe and conduct suitable commemorative exercises as specified; and

**WHEREAS**, the History-Social Science Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten through Grade Twelve, states that the history curriculum at each grade level relating to community, state, region, nation and the world must reflect and integrate the experiences of men and women of different racial, religious and ethnic groups; and

**WHEREAS**, the California Assembly and State Senate passed AB 1775, the Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution, without opposition and Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed this bill into law on September 23, 2010:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education encourages all schools and teachers to observe the Fred T. Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution on January 30 of every year, or the days surrounding it, and conduct exercises commemorating the life of Fred Korematsu and recognizing the importance of preserving civil liberties, even in times of real or perceived crisis.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education on this day, the 16<sup>th</sup> of January 2020, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

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Jon Kean  
President, Board of Education

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Dr. Ben Drati  
Superintendent