



**SANTA CRUZ**  
COUNTY OFFICE OF  
**EDUCATION**  
DR. FARIS SABBAH • SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Santa Cruz County Board of Education • 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 • Tel (831) 466-5900 • [www.santacruzcoe.org](http://www.santacruzcoe.org)  
**Mr. Ed Acosta • Ms. Alyssa Alto • Ms. Rose Filicetti • Ms. Sandra Nichols**  
**Ms. Sue Roth • Mr. Abel Sanchez • Mr. Bruce Van Allen**

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**RESOLUTION #22-03**  
**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING**  
**NATIONAL AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, Africans were forcibly brought to American shores to be enslaved as early as the 17th century; and

**WHEREAS**, Black Americans have subsequently faced injustices of lynch mobs, segregation, racist attacks, discrimination and denial of basic, fundamental rights; and

**WHEREAS**, in spite of these injustices, many of which continue to exist today, Black Americans have made significant contributions to the economic, educational, political, artistic, literary, scientific and technological advancements of the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, National African American History Month, also known as Black History Month, had its origins in 1915 when historian and author Dr. Carter G. Woodson founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History; and

**WHEREAS**, Black History Month in February celebrates the contributions that Black Americans have made to American history in their struggles for freedom and equality and deepens our understanding of our Nation's history; and

**WHEREAS**, Presidents Ford, Carter, Reagan, Clinton, Bush, Obama, and Trump have issued Presidential messages and proclamations recognizing the significance of National African American History Month by urging all Americans to recognize the important contributions made by African Americans to American life and culture; and

**WHEREAS**, The United States Congress has similarly passed laws and adopted resolutions since 1986 to recognize the significance of contributions made by Black Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, The Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Gallery of Art, National Park Service, Smithsonian Institution and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum join in paying tribute to the generations of African Americans who struggled with adversity to achieve full citizenship in American society; and

**WHEREAS**, Black History Month is a time for us to continue our collective journey honoring and deepening our knowledge of the history and contributions of Black Americans and people of African descent that have been marginalized from mainstream curricula and discussions because of our country's legacy of slavery, and institutional and structural racism; and

**WHEREAS**, the Santa Cruz County Office of Education and the Board of Education is committed to valuing diversity and believes deeply that equity, respect and justice are central to the character of who we are, to the health of our democracy and to the well-being of our world; and

**WHEREAS**, at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, it is our hope that during this month of recognition and celebration of Black Americans and their contributions made to this country, that we will work to disrupt manifestations of anti-blackness sentiments in our communities and in our schools; and

**WHEREAS**, the theme for this year's Black History Month is Black health and wellness, a reminder that racism remains a public health crisis alongside the inequities we work to overcome in public education every day.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education and the County Superintendent of Schools hereby recognize and support National African American History Month in February by encouraging public officials, educators, librarians, and school communities to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education and the County Superintendent of Schools hereby support school districts in their effort to commemorate National African American History Month by providing instructional resources, relevant research, resources and promising practices throughout the year to make a significant impact on the lives and futures of Black American students.

Resolution #22-03 Recognizing National African American History Month  
Santa Cruz County Board of Education  
February 17, 2022

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Santa Cruz County Board of Education, County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this 17th day of February, 2022, by the following vote:

**AYES:** Acosta, Alto, Filicetti, Nichols, Roth, Sanchez, Van Allen

**NAYS:**

**ABSENT:**

**ABSTAIN:**



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Abel Sanchez, Board President  
Santa Cruz County Board of Education



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Dr. Faris M. Sabbah, Secretary  
Santa Cruz County Superintendent of Schools