



Santa Barbara Unified

Every child, every chance, every day.

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Resolution No. 2017/2018-31

Resolution Proclaiming Santa Barbara Unified School District's Recognition of César Chávez Day

WHEREAS, in recognition that as a child who worked in the fields, César Chávez attended 37 schools before graduating from the eighth grade and, in order to help support his family, he had to drop out of school and became a migrant farm worker, enduring a life of hard work and low wages.

WHEREAS, as an adult, César Chávez worked as an advocate for nonviolence and empowerment through voter registration.

WHEREAS, as leader of the United Farm Workers, César Chávez worked diligently to pass the landmark California Agricultural Labor Relations Act, which was signed into law in 1975. The Act was the first in the nation to give farm workers the right to seek union representation and bargain collectively within the framework of state law.

WHEREAS, determined to make the world a better place than he found it, César Chávez demonstrated that one person can make a difference and believed that "The end of all education should surely be service to others."

WHEREAS, in recognition of his nonviolent activism and support of working people, César Chávez was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom posthumously in 1994 by President William Jefferson Clinton and also inducted into the California Hall of Fame on December 6, 2006.

WHEREAS, the Keene, CA home and burial site of César Chávez is an important part of Latino history, the site has been designated a national monument in the national park system. The site, known as Señora Reina de la Paz (Our Lady Queen of Peace), is the nation's first site honoring a contemporary Mexican American.

WHEREAS, the State of California recognizes March 31, 2018, as "César Chávez Day," a state holiday, in recognition of his life and his commitment to social justice in the workplace, the civil rights of all people, and respect for human dignity.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Barbara Unified School District Board of Education believes that César Chávez Day provides a powerful reminder to students and staff that service to others honors the legacy of one of California's prominent civil right leaders.

LET IT ALSO BE RESOLVED that the Santa Barbara Unified School District Board of Education calls on every teacher in the district to honor César Chávez's enduring legacy on March 31 or an alternative March school day(s) identified by the superintendent or designee, by providing students with grade-appropriate lessons and/or activities, such as those provided in the model K-12 curriculum available on the California Department of Education's web site.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a meeting of the Santa Barbara Unified School District Board of Education, Santa Barbara County, Santa Barbara, California, held on the 13th day of March, 2018, by the following vote:

Ayes: _____ Noes: _____ Abstain: _____

By: _____ Date: _____

Cary Matsuoka, Secretary
Santa Barbara Unified School District Board of Education