

RESOLUTION NO. 25/26-27

IN SUPPORT OF JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH, MAY

WHEREAS, for thousands of years, members of Jewish communities have sustained strong cultural identities and traditions despite persecution, enslavement, forced segregation, and the horrors of the Holocaust; and

WHEREAS, since the first Dutch Jew set foot in New Amsterdam (now known as New York City) back in 1654, Jews have contributed to the culture of the United States of America while achieving success, strengthening the country, and helping shape America through a deep commitment to faith, family, and community; and

WHEREAS, in his second year in office, President George Washington wrote a letter to the Touro Synagogue in Newport, Rhode Island, one of the first Jewish houses of worship in the United States of America, reaffirming the nation's commitment to religious freedom and noting that the government of the United States would give "to bigotry no sanction [and] to persecution no assistance" as he also emphasized that all Americans are entitled to "liberty of conscience and immunities of citizenship"; and

WHEREAS, it was such a belief system that drew generations of Jewish immigrants to the United States of America to rebuild their lives, whether that included Jewish families fleeing pogroms or persecution; and

WHEREAS, this history has led many Jewish Americans to find common cause with the Civil Rights Movement, and Jewish Americans have continued their strong support for liberty and human dignity, thus uniting to end discrimination in voting, employment, and public accommodation while also supporting equity for women, farmworkers, disabled, and LGBTQ+ Americans; and

WHEREAS, Jewish Americans continue to contribute to the nation's progress as scientists, teachers, entrepreneurs, members of the Armed Forces, public servants, private citizens, leaders, parents, and citizens in all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, we recognize we all must remember that anti-Semitism continues to be a concern in this nation and across the globe, and we recognize we all need to continue in our efforts at understanding and inclusion; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that San Ramon Valley Unified School District's Board of Education proclaims the month of May as Jewish American Heritage Month and encourages all families, students, and staff to acknowledge and honor Jewish Americans for their notable accomplishments and outstanding service to California, and the nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Jewish American Heritage Month in May is the time when the culture and history of Jewish Americans are celebrated and their contributions to this nation are honored.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the following called vote this 9th day of June 2026.

BUDGET IMPLICATION: None

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AYES: *Ordway, Vanlee, Hurd, Bratt, Clark*
NOES: *None*
ABSENT: *None*
ABSTAINED: *None*



CJ Cammack, Superintendent and Secretary to
the Governing Board of San Ramon Valley
Unified School District