Woodland Joint Unified School District

Resolution 18-27: Sikh Heritage Month – November 2026

WHEREAS, Sikhs have been living in the United States for more than 100 years, and during the early 20th century, thousands of Sikh Americans worked on farms in lumber mills and mines, and on the Oregon, Pacific & Eastern Railroad; and

WHEREAS, Sikhism is the fifth largest religion in the world, and today, there are more than 30 million Sikhs worldwide and an estimated 500,000 Sikh Americans; and

WHEREAS, Sikh Americans pursue diverse professions, and make rich contributions to the social, cultural, and economic vibrancy of the United States, including significant contributions to our nation in agriculture, information technology, small business, the hotel industry, trucking, medicine, technology; and

WHEREAS, Sikh Americans distinguished themselves by fostering respect among all people through faith and service; and

WHEREAS, on October 14, 1912, the first Sikh Gurdwara in the United States, Gurdwara Sahib Sikh Temple, was founded by Professor Teja Singh of the Pacific Coast Khalsa Diwan Society; and

WHEREAS, Woodland Joint Unified School District is committed to educating citizens about the world's religions, the value of religious diversity, tolerance grounded in First Amendment principles, a culture of mutual understanding, and the diminution of violence; and

WHEREAS, Woodland Joint Unified School District seeks to further the diversity of its community and afford all students the opportunity to better understand, recognize, and appreciate the rich history and shared experiences of Sikh Americans; and

WHEREAS, the Sikh and Punjabi American communities of California continue to make important contributions to our state and nation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Woodland Joint Unified School District Board of Trustees is proclaiming November as "Sikh Heritage Month."

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 5th day of November 2026, by unanimous vote:

BOARD SECRETARY

BOARD PRESIDENT