

January 21, 2020

RESOLUTION NO. 6039

Proclamation and Recognition of February as Black History Month

RECITALS

- A. Black History Month began in 1915, half a century after the Thirteenth Amendment abolished slavery in the United States, the creation of noted historian Carter G. Woodson and other prominent African Americans.
- B. The Civil Rights Movement and a growing awareness of black identity, Black History Month is now an annual celebration of achievements by Black Americans a time for recognizing the central role of members of the African Diaspora in U.S. history.
- C. The contributions of members of the African Diaspora and their endeavors to learn and thrive throughout history and make unforgettable marks in our Nation as artists, scientists, educators, business people, influential thinkers, members of the faith community, athletes, and political and governmental leaders, reflect the greatness of the United States.
- D. Black history reflects a determined spirit of perseverance and cultural pride in its struggle to equitably share in the opportunities of a nation founded upon the principles of freedom and liberty for all people.
- E. Members of the African Diaspora have participated in every American effort to secure, protect, and advance the cause of freedom and civil rights and continue to resist white supremacy.
- F. The local community has enriched the diversity of perspective and experience in our District; and the Board of Education desires to recognize and honor the achievements and contributions of members of the African Diaspora.
- G. Our history curriculum of community, state, region, nation and the world must reflect the lived experiences of people of different racial, religious, and ethnic groups.
- H. All students need an opportunity to understand the common humanity underlying all people, to develop pride in their own identity and heritage, and to respect and accept the identity and heritage of others.

RESOLVED

The Board of Education of the Portland Public Schools hereby recognizes the month of February 2020 as Black History Month and encourages all educators to commemorate this occasion with appropriate ceremonies, instructional activities, and programs.