

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 271
Bloomington, Minnesota

REQUEST FOR SCHOOL BOARD ACTION

DATE OF BOARD MEETING: February 13, 2017

SUBJECT: Black History Month Proclamation

ORIGINATION DEPARTMENT: Dinna Wade-Ardley
Office of Educational Equity

APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE
CABINET MEMBER: Andrew Kubas
Executive Director of Learning Supports

RESOLUTION FOR BOARD TO ADOPT:

RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves the attached proclamation proclaiming February 2017 as Black History Month in the Bloomington Public Schools.

RECOMMENDATION OF SUPERINTENDENT:

Approve.

DETAILED BACKGROUND:

Black History Month was established in 1915 by Harvard trained historian, Carter G. Woodson. This was created as an annual celebration of achievements of Black Americans and a time for recognizing the central roles of African-Americans in U.S. History. Every U.S. President has designated the month of February as Black History Month since 1976.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH February 2017

WHEREAS, the history of people of African heritage goes back thousands of years and includes some of the greatest, most advanced and innovative societies in the history of human existence; and

WHEREAS, African Americans have played a significant role in the history of the State of Minnesota, from the early days of the pioneers to our present day leaders in education, agriculture, government, the arts, finance and international trade; and

WHEREAS, during Black History Month, all Americans are encouraged to reflect on the rich history and teachings of African Americans and bear witness to the progress, beauty, and achievements they have made throughout our region.

WHEREAS, in 1976, Black History Month was formally adopted to honor and affirm the importance of Black History throughout our American experience; and

WHEREAS, the history of African Americans and that of Americans from all of the world's cultures is reflected in the curriculum, learning materials, activities and celebrations throughout the year in the Bloomington Public Schools;

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Bloomington School Board, proclaim the month of February 2017 to be

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

in the Bloomington Public Schools. We encourage all staff, students, families and residents to join in celebrating the collective ingenuity, creativity, cultures and traditions of African Americans and to continue honoring the contributions of Black Americans throughout the year.

Ric Oliva, Chair
Bloomington School Board
February 13, 2017