

**CONEJO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

RESOLUTION #21/22-44

Recognition of Juneteenth Independence Day and Tulsa Race Massacre

WHEREAS, news of the end of slavery did not reach the frontier areas of the United States, in particular, the State of Texas and the other Southwestern States until months after the conclusion of the Civil War, more than 2½ years after President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863; and

WHEREAS, African Americans who had been formerly enslaved in the Southwest celebrated June 19, commonly known as “Juneteenth Independence Day,” as inspiration and encouragement for future generations and have observed the tradition of observing Juneteenth Independence Day for over 150 years; and

WHEREAS, the State of California has designated Juneteenth Independence Day as a special day of observance in recognition of the emancipation of all enslaved people in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth Independence Day celebrations have been held to honor African American freedom while encouraging self-development and respect for all cultures; and are times for reflection and rejoicing; and

WHEREAS, the faith and strength of character demonstrated by formerly enslaved people and the descendants of formerly enslaved people remain an example for all people of the United States, regardless of background, religion, or race; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress has designated June 19 as “Juneteenth Independence Day” in recognition of the historical significance of Juneteenth Independence Day to the United States and in order to support the continued nationwide celebration of Juneteenth Independence Day to provide an opportunity for the people of the United States to learn more about the past, to better understand and reckon with the experiences that have shaped the United States, and to recognize that the observance of the end of slavery is part of the history and heritage of the United States; and

WHEREAS, thereafter President Biden proclaimed June 19 as Juneteenth Day of Observance and called upon the people of the United States to acknowledge and celebrate the end of the Civil War and the emancipation of Black Americans, and commit together to eradicate systemic racism that still undermines our founding ideals and collective prosperity; and

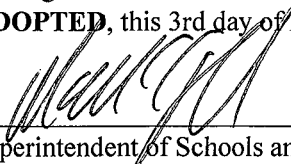
WHEREAS, the Conejo Valley Unified School District seeks to further solidify and expand its support of the local observance of Juneteenth as an annual celebration and as a continued opportunity to recognize the impact, achievements, and significant role that African Americans have played in the history of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress recognizes the historical significance of the Tulsa Race Massacre as one of the largest single instances of state-sanctioned violence against Black people in American history and encourages education about the massacre in all elementary and secondary education settings and in institutions of higher education while remaining committed to acknowledge and learn from the history of racism and racial violence to reverse the legacy of white supremacy and fight for racial justice; and

WHEREAS, Conejo Valley Unified School District recognizes the importance of a day to honor and reflect on how African Americans have enriched society through their steadfast commitment to promoting unity, equality, and justice; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Conejo Valley Unified School District designate June 19, 2022 and June 19 of each year thereafter, as a local holiday in honor of Juneteenth, until such time as it is designated a state-mandated holiday by the Governor and/or State Legislature.

ADOPTED, this 3rd day of May, 2022.



Superintendent of Schools and
Secretary to the Board



Clerk of the Board