



Reynolds School District
Administration Offices
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**RESOLUTION #2017-2018-002
PROCLAIMING THE CELEBRATION OF
NATIONAL HISPANIC/LATINO HERITAGE MONTH**

WHEREAS, forty percent of enrolled students are Hispanic and/or Latino; and

WHEREAS, history is rich with Hispanic and Latino peoples, who positively influence and enrich our nation, our society, our region, our state, and our schools;

WHEREAS, the contributions of persons with Latino and Hispanic heritage have been a consistent and vital influence in our nations growth and prosperity for more than five centuries;

WHEREAS, Spanish, Mexican, and indigenous cultures were established in this region before Oregon obtained statehood. Spanish sailor Juan Perez and his Mexican crew explored the area along the coasts of Oregon and Washington in 1774. From the mid 1800s to the mid 1900s, Latinos mined for resources, worked in the lumber industry, helped shape our livestock industry through the "vaquero" (cowboy) tradition and built highways and railroads in Oregon. In the 1950s, Mexicano and Mexican-American Tejano families permanently settled in several regions of Oregon and Hispanic and Latino farm workers were a crucial part of Oregon's agricultural economy. As early as the 1960s, Latinos and Hispanics initiated businesses meeting local demand in the service industry, health, manufacturing, and high tech sectors, while establishing themselves as integral community members working in public service and civic society. Today, over two-thirds of Hispanic Oregonians were born in the United States and they continue to own business, serve as community leaders and vital contributors within vocations, civic and community life.

WHEREAS, the Reynolds School Board has established that each and every student is to be celebrated and appreciated for the distinct and vibrant contributions made by sharing cultures, language, ideas, beliefs and values within a school community; and

WHEREAS, the Reynolds School Board has an adopted equity policy that states our commitment to closing the achievement gap and creating an educational environment where all students have the opportunity to benefit equally from the educational programs offered; and

WHEREAS, the Reynolds School District is working towards eliminating the racial predictability and disproportionality in all aspects of education; and

WHEREAS, the contributions of our Latino and Hispanic students and families are a vital and vibrant part of our public school system.