

Resolution 2025-2026-002

Proclaiming the Celebration of National Hispanic and Latino Heritage Month

WHEREAS, forty-four 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 nation's growth and prosperity for more than five centuries;

WHEREAS, Spanish, Mexican, and indigenous cultures were established in this region before Oregon obtained statehood. From the mid 1800s to the mid 1900s, Latinos mined for resources, worked in the lumber industry, helped shape the livestock industry through the "vaquero" (cowboy) tradition and built highways and railroads in Oregon. In the 1950s, Mexican 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, Latino 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, we recognize that the Latino / Hispanic identity is not a monolith and expands beyond Latin America and the native cultures that exist within each of those countries.

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Reynolds School Board of Directors proclaims September 15 - October 15, 2025, to celebrate Hispanic and Latino Heritage Month; and strongly encourages our staff and community to observe, recognize, and celebrate the culture, heritage, and contributions of Hispanics / Latinos to our country, our state, our cities, and our schools.

Attest:

Adopted this 27th day of August 2025.

Signed:

Chair, Reynolds School Board of Directors

Superintendent / Clerk