



**State Board of Education Ceremonial Resolution
Celebrating National Hispanic Heritage Month
CR22-29**

WHEREAS, the United States observes National Hispanic Heritage Month each year from September 15 to October 15, continuing a tradition that began in 1968 under President Lyndon B. Johnson as Hispanic Heritage Week and that was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988;

WHEREAS, the purpose of National Hispanic Heritage Month is to celebrate the language, culture, contributions, and history of the Hispanic and Latinx communities in the United States who represent ancestry from Spain, Africa, Mexico, the Caribbean, Central and South America;

WHEREAS, Hispanic Heritage Month acknowledges the anniversary of independence for several Latin American countries including Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, and Nicaragua;

WHEREAS, the Smithsonian Institution is building the National Museum of the American Latino to recognize the accomplishments, history, and culture of Latinx communities;

WHEREAS, the Department of Homeland Security has issued a proposed rulemaking to preserve and fortify the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) policy, effective October 31, 2022—which would impact our students, their families, and residents across the District;

WHEREAS, more than 77,000 (11 percent), of D.C. residents are of Hispanic or Latinx heritage, according to the most recent data from the United States Census Bureau;


WHEREAS, over 17,000 (18 percent) of D.C.’s students identify as Hispanic or Latinx; and

WHEREAS, National Hispanic Heritage Month will be commemorated this year in District schools and neighborhoods with events, festivals, programs, and activities surrounding the 2022 theme Unidos: Inclusivity for a Stronger Nation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the D.C. State Board of Education recognizes and celebrates National Hispanic Heritage Month and the history, achievements, and contributions of the District’s residents of Hispanic and Latinx ancestry; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the State Board recognizes and values the importance of culturally sustaining pedagogy, dual language-immersion programs, and bilingual methods of instruction as important elements of equity and excellence in education.

Date Adopted: 9/21/2022

Signed: 
Jessica Sutter, President

District of Columbia State Board of Education

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