

PROCLAMATION IN RECOGNITION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

WHEREAS, in 1926, Dr. Carter G. Woodson, noted Black scholar and Harvard graduate initiated Black History Week; and for many years, the second week of February was chosen to celebrate the contributions and achievements of African American people in the United States so as to coincide with the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, as part of the nation's bicentennial, Black History Week was expanded and became established as Black History Month, and is now celebrated all over North America; and

WHEREAS, the Sun Prairie Area School District Board of Education, administrators, and educators of the Sun Prairie Area School District have committed to stand by our Black and Brown students, staff and families, to speak out against statements of bigotry, social injustice, discrimination, racism, and hate, and to continuously work on the development and implementation of strategies and best practices that dismantle racism, bigotry, and ethnic oppression within all aspects of our schools and school district; and

WHEREAS, this year the Sun Prairie Area School District has again partnered with our building Equity Teams, Black Student Unions, Community Schools, the City of Sun Prairie, and other community organizations to increase and expand on our efforts to celebrate Black History with appropriate programs, activities, and celebrations that focus on BLACK RENAISSANCE and honor the contributions and achievements of African American people in the United States by embracing the diverse thoughts and experiences that engage all of our students, staff, families and community members; and

WHEREAS, we know that one month is not sufficient to honor all the contributions and achievements of African American people in the United States and the school district will continue to partner with Community Schools, the City of Sun

Prairie, 100 Black Men, and other community organizations to plan and participate in events that celebrate African American heritage throughout the year, including the Multicultural Fair, HBCU tour, community soul food dinner, and Juneteenth events; and

WHEREAS, African American history is American history;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Sun Prairie Area School District Board of Education proudly recognizes the month of February as Black History Month; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Sun Prairie Area School District Board of Education strongly encourages our staff and community members to observe, recognize and celebrate the culture, heritage, and contributions of our Black students, families and community members to our schools, communities, state, and country.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this proclamation was duly adopted by the Board of Education of the Sun Prairie Area School District on the 23rd day of January, 2023.

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Steve Schroeder, President On behalf of Board of Education

Carol Sue Albright, Clerk
Alwyn Foster, Member
LaToya Holiday, Treasurer
Bryn Horton, Vice President
Diana McFarland, Deputy Clerk
Carson Schmoldt, Student Member
Embree Way, Student Member
Tom Weber, Governance Officer