May 22, 2023

## **AAPI Heritage Month**

WHEREAS, May is identified as Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month, when the Nation celebrates the diversity of cultures, breadth of achievement, and remarkable contributions of AAPI communities; of brave immigrants who, motivated by the promise of possibilities, picked up their lives and found new homes in America; of native peoples who have stewarded lands since time immemorial; and of community leaders shaping a brighter future for us all; and

WHEREAS, throughout history, members of the AAPI community have represented the bigger story of who we are as Americans and embodied the truth that our diversity is our strength as a Nation; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders represent us at every level of government, historic Oscar-winning performances in film, achievements across business, culture, sports, and civil rights, and are indeed the fabric of this Nation; and

WHEREAS, the contributions of the AAPI communities can be seen through service in education, the military, and on the front lines during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, despite the immeasurable ways AAPIs enrich this country, we continue to see persistent racism, harassment, and hate crimes against these communities. Attacks on Asian American women and elders have left too many families afraid to leave their homes and too many loved ones traumatized; and

WHEREAS, the South Orange County Community College District supports progress made to advance equity and opportunity for the AAPI community through DEIA initiatives and activities; now, therefore,

B E IT RESOLVED, the South Orange County Community College District Board of Trustees, we do hereby proclaim May 2023 as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month and ask all students and employees to learn more about the history of the AAPI community through appropriate programs and activities.

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