



November 17, 2025

Board of Trustees Resolution

Recognizing November as National Native American Heritage Month

Whereas, November is recognized nationally as Native American Heritage Month, a time to honor and celebrate the rich histories, diverse cultures, and enduring contributions of Native American, Alaska Native, and Indigenous peoples across the United States; and

Whereas, the South Orange County Community College District acknowledges that our colleges reside on the ancestral lands of the Acjachemen (Ah-ha-che-men) and Tongva peoples, who have stewarded these lands for generations with profound respect for nature, community, and knowledge; and

Whereas, Native American Heritage Month serves as an important opportunity to educate our communities about the resilience, traditions, and continued impact of Indigenous peoples, while also recognizing the injustices and challenges they have faced throughout history; and

Whereas, the District is committed to advancing equity, inclusion, and cultural understanding through education, dialogue, and programs that honor the experiences and perspectives of Native and Indigenous communities; and

Whereas, our colleges—Saddleback College and Irvine Valley College—embrace this month as a time to celebrate Indigenous voices through student engagement, curriculum, and community partnerships that strengthen awareness and mutual respect; and

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Board of Trustees Resolution

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Whereas, the South Orange County Community College District Board of Trustees reaffirms its dedication to creating learning environments that honor diversity, promote equity, and empower all students to thrive; now, therefore,

Be it resolved, that the South Orange County Community College District Board of Trustees does hereby recognize November 2025 as Native American Heritage Month, and encourages all students, faculty, and staff to join in celebrating the cultures, achievements, and enduring spirit of Native American and Indigenous peoples.

Carolyn Inmon, President

T.J. Prendergast III, Clerk

Timothy Jemal, Member

Terri Rydell, EdD, Member

Julianna M. Asperin Barnes, EdD, Chancellor

Ryan Dack, Vice President

Lisa A. Bartlett, Member

Marcia Milchiker, Member

Blake Leonard, Student Member