South Orange County Community College District

August 31, 2026

Board of Trustees Resolution

Recognizing September 15 to October 15 as

Hispanic Heritage Month

Whereas, Hispanic Heritage Week was first designated in 1968 by U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson, and expanded by U.S. President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to a 31-day period from September 15 to October 15 to recognize the contributions of Hispanic Americans to American society and culture; and

Whereas, the date September 15 is significant because it is the anniversary of independence for Latin American countries Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua; México celebrates independence on September 16; and Chile celebrates independence on September 18; and

Whereas, the Hispanic population of the United States numbered 60.6 million people as of July 1, 2019, making people of Hispanic origin the nation's largest ethnic or racial minority, constituting 18.5 percent of the nation's total population; and approximately 34 percent of residents in Orange County identify as Hispanic or Latino; and

Whereas, the South Orange County Community College District (SOCCCD) proudly serves students, staff, faculty, and community members who identify as Hispanic, Latino, Latina, Latinx, Chicano, Chicana, Chicanx, Mexican American, Central American, South American, and Afro-Latino; and

Whereas, Saddleback College within SOCCCD is designated as a Hispanic-serving institution (HSI), which is defined in Title V of the Higher Education Act as a not-for-profit institution of higher learning with full-time equivalent (FTE) undergraduate student enrollment that is at least 25 percent Hispanic; and

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Whereas, Irvine Valley College within SOCCCD, is an emerging Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI), defined by Excelencia in Education as an undergraduate FTE Hispanic enrollment between 15 and 24 percent; and

Whereas, the SOCCCD and its colleges have been enriched by the Hispanic employees who have made strides in the lives of others across the District; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of the South Orange County Community College District hereby recognizes Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15 – October 15, 2026) and encourages all students, staff, faculty, and members of the public to honor the transformative contributions that have been made to our community.

Carolyn Inmon, President

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