WHEREAES, California is home to a dynamic and diverse population, with many citizens who hail from Spanish-speaking nations. September 15 marks the beginning of Hispanic Heritage Month, and it is a time to celebrate the economic, cultural and social contributions of our Hispanic population.

WHEREAES, the recognition became a month-long commemoration in 1988, with the September 15 start chosen to acknowledge the Independence Day anniversaries of five Latin American countries that declared independence in 1821: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. Additionally, Mexico declared its independence on September 16, and Chile on September 18.

WHEREAES, today nearly 39% of California’s population is Hispanic, where their commitment to democracy and opportunity remains strong. Hispanic-Californians enrich our state through their entrepreneurship, their commitment to community service and their deep value of justice and liberty.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED; that the Pittsburg Unified School District Board of Education, hereby proclaims September 15 through October 15, 2019 as “Hispanic Heritage Month”; and

Be It Further Resolved, that The Board of Education encourages the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month to provide a continuing opportunity for all people in the United States to learn from the past and understand the experiences that have shaped the United States;

Be It Further Resolved, that the Superintendent or her designee shall work with all schools in the district to recognize and celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month through culturally relevant activity in a manner deemed appropriate by the school site;

Be it further resolved, that the Board of Education directs the Superintendent to post a copy of this resolution at each School Site and the District Office; and

Passed and Adopted, on February 6, 2019 at a regular meeting of the Board of Education by the following vote:

AYES: 3
NOES: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 2

Duane Smith, Board President