

Mr. Schmerelson - Celebrating October as Filipino Heritage Month

Whereas, Filipinos contributed to the progression of the cultural, intellectual, political, and economic life in the United States and the Los Angeles Unified School District;

Whereas, There are an estimated 4 million Filipino-Americans residing in the United States, making them the second-largest Asian-American population within the country and the third-largest ethnic group in California;

Whereas, Historic Filipinotown is located in Los Angeles and is a central part of The City of Los Angeles with a rich history and culture;

Whereas, 1.6 percent of students in the District identify as Filipino or of Filipino descent;

Whereas, In October 1587, the first Filipinos arrived in the United States in what is now Morro Bay, California;

Whereas, October is the birth month of influential Filipino-American labor leader, Larry Itliong;

Whereas, October was declared Filipino Heritage Month in California and Hawaii in 1988; and

Whereas, The California Department of Education officially recognized October as Filipino Heritage Month in 2006; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Los Angeles Unified School District will declare October 2023 as Filipino Heritage and History Month;

Resolved, That the Superintendent's office explore the possibility of establishing a lesson plan on the history of Historic Filipinotown and important Filipino figures in Los Angeles as well as creating a dual language program in the Filipino language after a viability study has been completed; and, be it finally

Resolved, That the District will work with all LAUSD schools to accurately and positively celebrate Filipino history and heritage.