

**Berkeley Unified School District
Board of Education**

RESOLUTION NO. 13-033

Proclaiming February 2013 as
National African American History Month

WHEREAS, February has been designated African American History Month by various official bodies; and

WHEREAS, Berkeley Unified School District recognizes and celebrates the contribution of African American historical figures, leaders, teachers, parents, community activists, and has a longtime commitment to integration in our public schools; and

WHEREAS, the year 2013 marks two important anniversaries in the history of African Americans and the United States. On January 1, 1863, the Emancipation Proclamation set the United States on the path of ending slavery; and

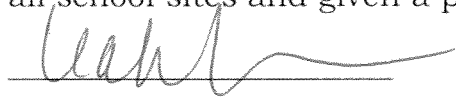
WHEREAS, a century later, in 1963, America once again stood at the crossroads. Nine years earlier, the U.S. Supreme Court had outlawed racial segregation in public schools, but the nation had not yet committed itself to equality of citizenship. On August 28, 1963, hundreds of thousands of Americans marched to the memorial of Abraham Lincoln, the author of the Emancipation Proclamation, in the continuing pursuit of equality of citizenship and self-determination. It was on this occasion that Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his celebrated "I Have a Dream" speech; and

WHEREAS, Berkeley Unified School District again affirms its commitment to appreciating, celebrating and valuing its African American students, and recognizes the importance of acknowledging the history, culture, and struggles of our African American community; and

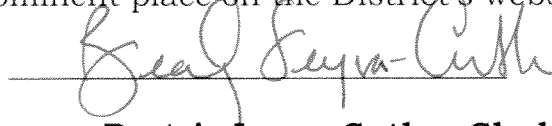
WHEREAS, the Board of Education encourages discussions, presentation, and projects relating to and enhancing the experience of African American History Month; and

BE IT RESOLVED that on this 23rd day of January, 2013, February 2013 be declared African American History Month in the Berkeley Unified School District; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be distributed to all school sites and given a prominent place on the District's website.



Leah Wilson, President



Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, Clerk