

RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING AND HONORING
BLACK HISTORY MONTH

WHEREAS, the origin of **BLACK HISTORY MONTH** began in 1915, half a century after the Thirteenth Amendment abolished slavery in the United States, and grew out of “Negro History Week,” the creation of noted historian Carter G. Woodson and other prominent African Americans; and

WHEREAS, with the Civil Rights Movement and a growing awareness of black identity, **BLACK HISTORY MONTH** or National African American History Month evolved to an annual celebration of achievements by black Americans and a time for recognizing the central role of African Americans in U. S. history; and

WHEREAS, the contributions of African Americans from all walks of life and their endeavors to learn and thrive throughout history and make unforgettable marks in our Nation as artists, scientists, educators, business people, influential thinkers, member of the faith community, athletes, and political and governmental leaders, reflects the greatness of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Oak Park is a diverse community, with the African-American student population making up 17 percent of the District 97 enrollment, and 25 percent of the District’s staff being African-American; and

WHEREAS, remaining hopeful and confident about the path ahead, and a time to acknowledge the courageous fight for the rights, liberties, and freedoms for all Americans, the Oak Park Elementary Board of Education observes and honors **BLACK HISTORY MONTH** and encourages educators, students, and families to learn about the heritage and achievements of African-Americans through appropriate programs and activities that reflect the theme for 2017:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Oak Park Elementary Board of Education does hereby adopt this resolution to honor **BLACK HISTORY MONTH** and recognize the tremendous contributions made by African-Americans.

Adopted on the Twenty Seventh Day of February 2018.

President

Secretary