

**DAVID DOUGLAS SCHOOL DISTRICT PROCLAMATION:
PROCLAIMING THE MONTH-LONG CELEBRATION OF
WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH
IN MARCH**

WHEREAS, the California Education Task Force of the Sonoma County Commission on the Status of Women initiated the county’s first ever “Women’s History Week” celebration for 1978 and the week March 8th, International Women’s Day¹, was chosen as the focal point of the observance; and

WHEREAS, similar celebrations were quickly organized across the country and national advocacy built around the declaration of a formal “National Women’s History Week”; and

WHEREAS, President Carter issued the first Presidential Proclamation declaring the Week of March 8th, 1980 as National Women’s History Week²; and

WHEREAS, thousands of schools and communities began celebrating National Women’s History Week and by 1986, 14 states had already declared March as Women’s History Month³; and

WHEREAS, in 1987, Congress declared March as National Women's History Month⁴ in perpetuity and a special Presidential Proclamation is issued every year which honors the extraordinary achievements of women in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the 2019 National Women’s History Month theme is “Valiant Women of the Vote: Refusing to be Silenced⁵”; and

WHEREAS, during Women’s History Month, we acknowledge the paid and **unpaid** achievements and contributions made by women to Oregon’s and the United States’ homes, culture, education⁶, politics⁷, arts⁸, literature, science, technological developments⁹, and economy¹⁰ despite institutional and systemic injustices designed to prevent and limit these achievements and contributions; and

WHEREAS, during Women’s History Month the David Douglas School Board acknowledges the additional determination, hard work, and perseverance, women of color¹¹, LGBTQ-identifying women¹², and low-income women of color¹³ must put forth to be heard and seen and that these additional efforts are a result of inequitable institutional and systemic injustices; and

WHEREAS, women in the United States have been leaders in securing their own rights of suffrage¹⁴, voting¹⁵, education¹⁶, economic opportunity¹⁷, safety¹⁸, and

WHEREAS, Women in the United States have also been leaders in the Abolitionist Movement¹⁹, the Labor Movement²⁰, the Civil Rights Movement²¹, the #metoo & #blacklivesmatter movements²², and many other movements, creating a more fair and just society for all; and

WHEREAS, despite these contributions and leadership, the role of women of color in U.S. history has been consistently overlooked and undervalued, in the literature, teaching and study of American history²³; and

WHEREAS, the persistence of the gender wage gap is shown by data released by the Census Bureau in 2018, showing in 2017 the median salaries for all full-time, year-round workers showed white women earned 77 cents for every dollar white men earned, Asian American women earned 85 cents, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander women made 62 cents, African American women earned 61 cents, American Indian and Alaska Native women earned 58 cents, and Hispanic women earned 53 cents; and²⁴

WHEREAS, women of color still experience higher rates of domestic violence, employment discrimination and harassment, bullying, and other safety issues than white women; and

WHEREAS, according to the Portland Housing Bureau's 2018 State of Housing report²⁵, single mothers in Portland cannot afford a 2-bedroom rental unit in any neighborhood within the City of Portland; and

WHEREAS, 89.8 percent of white girls in the 2021-2022 four-year cohort graduated, 93.3 percent of Asian American girls graduated, 77.3 percent of Black girls graduated, 77.8 percent of Hispanic/Latinx girls graduated, 50.0 percent of Native American Indian and Alaska Native girls graduated, 72.7 percent of Pacific Islander girls graduated, and 74.2 percent of multiracial girls graduated; and

WHEREAS, the overall graduation rate of 83.2 percent of the women student cohort in the 2021-2022 four-year cohort was higher than the men student cohort average percentage of 68.0; and

WHEREAS, 28.4 percent of the women graduation cohort self-identify as white, 17.4 percent self-identify as Asian American, 12.8 percent self-identify as Black, 28.7 percent self-identify as Hispanic/Latinx, 0.6 percent self-identify as Native American Indian and Alaskan Native, 3.2 percent self-identify as Pacific Islander, and 9.0 percent self-identify as multi-racial; and

WHEREAS, the David Douglas School District population of students who identify as girls of color and multiracial has increased over the past 10 years from 56.3 percent to 68.8 percent; and

WHEREAS, the educational and professional achievements of pregnant and parenting students are demonstrated by graduation data and by their enrollment in several university and technical programs post-graduation; and

WHEREAS, the Girls, Inc. and other student led groups organize and promote student success for girls; and

WHEREAS, 75.78 percent of the licensed workforce are women, 83.71 percent of which has self-identified as white women, 4.76 percent has self-identified as Asian American women, 1.22 percent has self-identified as Black women, 5.52 percent has self-identified as Hispanic/Latinx women, 0 percent has self-identified as Native American Indian and Alaskan Native women, 0.15 percent has self-identified as Pacific Islander women; and 4.6 percent has self-identified as Multiple Race; and

WHEREAS, 73.78 percent of the classified workforce are women, 73.1 percent of which has self-identified as white women, 4.51 percent has self-identified as Asian American women, 3.9 percent has self-identified as Black women, 13.34 percent has self-identified as Hispanic/Latinx women, 0.41 percent has self-identified as Native American Indian and Alaskan Native women, 0.41 percent has self-identified as Pacific Islander women, and 4.31 percent self-identified as Multiple Race; and

WHEREAS, 69.41 percentage of district leadership staff (supervisors, managers, principals) has self-identified as women; and

WHEREAS, six of the seven Board of Directors for the David Douglas School District self-identify as women and both members of board leadership (Chair and Vice Chair) self-identify as women^[26]; and

WHEREAS, 100 percent of classified executive board, 78 percent of certified executive board, and 72 percent certified building representatives have self-identified as women; and

WHEREAS, 70% percent of the ASB student leadership has identified as girls; and

WHEREAS, the David Douglas School District is committed to and advocates for equal educational, professional, and social opportunities for women and girls, and

WHEREAS, the District collaborates and partners with community-based organizations to form strong relationships in a culturally appropriate way and to provide the space for feedback and guidance to district leaders on improving outcomes and opportunities for women and girls in the District; and

WHEREAS, the District engages with several stakeholders and organizations to support awareness-building and development of focus on the accomplishments made by women and girls and further recognizes the efforts of those organizations within the District that strive to improve the quality of life for women and girls through advocacy, creating safe living environments, community engagement, outreach and inclusion.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Donna Barber, Chair of the David Douglas School Board of Directors, do hereby proclaim March 1st through March 31st, 2023 to be

WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH
in the David Douglas School District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the David Douglas School Board of Directors strongly encourages our staff and community to observe, recognize, and celebrate the culture, heritage, and contributions of women and girls to our country, our state, our cities, and our schools.

Signed:

Chair, David Douglas School District Board

[1] <https://www.internationalwomensday.com/About>

[2] <https://nationalwomenshistoryalliance.org/womens-history-month/womens-history-month-history/>

[3] <https://www.ajc.com/news/national/national-women-history-month-what-when-did-begin-who-being-honored-this-year/jWxQxse6TMNUAdW7w58YQM/>

[4] https://www.loc.gov/law/help/commemorative-observations/women_history.php

[5] <https://nationalwomenshistoryalliance.org/2021-theme/>

[6] http://hepg.org/her-home/issues/harvard-educational-review-volume-67-issue-4/herarticle/the-history-of-women-in-education_202

[7] <https://www.cawp.rutgers.edu/facts/milestones-for-women>

[8] <https://nmwa.org/advocate/get-facts>

[9] <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/women-in-stem>

[10]

<https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/economy/news/2017/03/07/427556/a-day-in-the-u-s-economy-without-women/>

[11] <https://cdn.americanprogress.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/StateOfWomenColor-1.pdf>

[12] <https://www.nps.gov/articles/series.htm?id=0B81BB73-1DD8-B71B-0B676B91F1D446A7>

[13] https://www.dol.gov/wb/resources/economic_status_women_of_color.pdf

[14] <https://www.archives.gov/exhibits/featured-documents/amendment-19>

[15] <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/GPO-CONAN-2002/pdf/GPO-CONAN-2002-9-20.pdf>

[16] <https://www.aclu.org/issues/womens-rights/womens-rights-education>

[17] <https://insidefraser.stlouisfed.org/2018/03/a-history-of-womens-economic-rights/>

[18] <https://www.dol.gov/wb/NTO/workers/rights/>

[19] <http://www.crusadeforthetvote.org/abolition>

[20] <http://www.seiu-uhw.org/archives/20663>

[21] https://nmaahc.si.edu/sites/default/files/images/black_women_civil_rights_movement_5.pdf

[22] <https://scholarship.law.wm.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1466&context=wmjowl>

[23] <https://www.womenshistory.org/social-studies-standards>

[24] <https://www.pay-equity.org/>

[25] <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/phb/article/707182>

[26] <https://www.ddouglas.k12.or.us/school-board/board-members/>