

RESOLUTION

Fort Worth Independent School District Board of Trustees

Resolution to Honor the Lives and Legacies of César E. Chávez and Dolores C. Huerta

WHEREAS, César E. Chávez and Dolores C. Huerta worked together as labor and civil rights leaders for 30 years;

WHEREAS, César E. Chávez and Dolores C. Huerta together added up to a formidable duo which led to the formation of the United Farm Workers Union in 1962 to contest the poor treatment of the workers in the fields, and sought to empower these workers by organizing the first union to acquire labor contracts for farm workers in the grape fields;

WHEREAS, César E. Chávez and Dolores C. Huerta changed the attitude of the workers in the fields and the nation far by leading them to rally to the slogan, “Si, Se Puede,” (We can do it) by empowering all to fight for civil rights and to strive for justice for all people and especially the voiceless in society;

WHEREAS, for more than three decades, César E. Chávez and Dolores C. Huerta led this groundbreaking organization by effecting social change through peaceful means such as boycotts and strikes. The Union’s efforts influenced and inspired millions of Americans forging a diverse national coalition in a hard-won struggle to achieve fair wages, medical coverage, pension benefits, humane living conditions, and perhaps most important, dignity and respect for the hundreds of thousands of farmworkers across the country;

WHEREAS, César E. Chávez and Dolores C. Huerta believed children need to be taken care of but more importantly, also educated in the process. They believed it is not enough to teach young people to be successful, to seek achievement, and to make progress as individuals, but believed their ambition must include the aspirations and needs of others;

WHEREAS, by successfully organizing the poorest of the poor, César E. Chávez and Dolores C. Huerta gave hope and pride to generations of Latinos and Latinas. They also inspired millions of other Americans from all walks of life who never worked on a farm to strive for social justice.

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the FWISD Board of Trustees would like to formally request that annually the Monday prior to the birthdate of César E. Chávez, March 31st, become a holiday for the students of Fort Worth ISD, to honor the lives and legacies of César E. Chávez and Dolores C. Huerta.

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the FWISD Board of Trustees encourages students to observe this day as a “day on, not a day off” and are encouraged to implement and participate in service-learning projects based on the life, work, and values of César E. Chávez and Dolores C. Huerta.

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that revisions to all 2018-2019 District calendars reflect the Monday prior to March 31st as a student holiday honoring the lives and legacies of César E. Chávez and Dolores C. Huerta. In addition, all future calendars shall reflect this change.

APPROVED on the 10th day of April 2018 by the Fort Worth ISD Board of Trustees.

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