

Resolution 20-014 Denouncing Xenophobia and the Anti-Asian Sentiment Arising Due to Fears of the Covid-19 Pandemic and Affirming the District's Commitment to the Well-Being and Safety of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders Communities

- **WHEREAS,** Asian American communities are suffering acts of discrimination, hate crimes, and microaggressions due to fears of COVID-I9; and
- **WHEREAS,** since the December 2019 outbreak of the COVID-19 virus in Wuhan, China, the infection has grown to more than 3.6 million confirmed cases and more than 258,000 confirmed deaths worldwide; and
- **WHEREAS,** according to the World Health Organization, more than 1.2 million cases have been reported in the United States as of May 6, 2020; and
- **WHEREAS,** some national leaders have used divisive and inflammatory rhetoric referring at times to the COVID-19 virus as the "Chinese virus," and "Kung-Flu;" and
- **WHEREAS**, such rhetoric is inaccurate and stigmatizing, tends to incite fear and xenophobia, and may put Asian Americans at risk of retaliation; and
- **WHEREAS**, scientists have confirmed that the COVID-19 disease does not respect borders and is not caused by ethnicity;
- **WHEREAS**, as the COVID-19 virus has spread, numerous Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have reported experiencing microaggressions, racial profiling, incidents of hate, and, in some cases, hate violence; and
- **WHEREAS**, individuals who identify as Asian and Pacific Islander make up 12.6% of San Diego County's population;
- **NOW BE IT RESOLVED,** the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District Board of Trustees wishes to affirm its commitment to the well-being and safety of Asian American students and community members and ensure they know they are not alone and that they can speak out to help stop the spread of bigotry; and
- **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District denounces xenophobia and anti-Asian sentiment and does not support the rhetoric and racist remarks of some national leaders regarding the COVID-19 virus. The District, with its strong commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion for all, joins cities, counties, and states across the country in affirming its commitment to the safety and well-

being of Asian Americans and in combating hate crimes targeting Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

**APPROVED AND ADOPTED** by the Governing Board of the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District at a regular meeting held this 19th day of May 2020, by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Cartwright, Garrett, Justeson, Monroe

NOES: None ABSENT: None

I, Elena Adams, Clerk of the Governing Board, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly passed and adopted by said Board at the regularly called and conducted meeting held on said date.

Clerk of the Governing Board