

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Resolution No. 1112-0134**

**Designating January 30 as the Fred Toyosaburo Korematsu
Day/Day of Remembrance In the Oakland Unified School District**

WHEREAS, An understanding of the natural rights of men as well as those enshrined in the U. S. Constitution is an essential part of a well-rounded education; and

WHEREAS, Oakland Unified School District alumnus Fred Toyosaburo Korematsu is one of the great modern civil rights heroes and a notable defender of the Constitution, his people and the great American ideals to which we aspire but do not always attain; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Korematsu was arrested on May 30, 1942 in downtown San Leandro, CA and subsequently convicted in U. S. District Court for refusing to go to a Japanese-American internment camp, but did not accept this injustice and instead fought it vigorously through all the means provided him under law; and

WHEREAS, The United States Supreme Court upheld Mr. Korematsu's conviction, but after the 1983 findings of the Carter Special Commission that internment of Japanese-Americans was based on "race prejudice, war hysteria, and a failure of political leadership," and the discovery of other documents in U. S. Government Archives that stated Japanese-Americans posed no danger to the U.S., a U. S. District Court Judge, on November 10, 1983, overturned Mr. Korematsu's conviction, of which the history of the events established Mr. Korematsu as a civil rights icon for a younger generation of Japanese-Americans and Americans in general;

WHEREAS, President William "Bill" Clinton awarded Mr. Korematsu the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor, in 1988; and

WHEREAS, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed a bill in 2010 making January 30—Mr. Korematsu's birthday— an annual day of recognition in California known as the Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution; and

WHEREAS, The designation of January 30 as Fred Korematsu Day marked the first time any state designated a day in honor of an Asian-American; and

WHEREAS, The District has named one of its elementary schools the Fred T. Korematsu Discovery Academy to salute his origins in the East Bay, his attendance at Oakland Public Schools and his contributions to American society and humanity at large; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Korematsu embodies the principles of intelligence, compassion, justice, and persistence that the District holds as a model for all its students,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education and the Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District salute the legacy of Fred Toyosaburo Korematsu and designate January 30, as **Fred Toyosaburo Korematsu Day/Day of Remembrance** in the District.

Given under our hand and the District's seal this 25th day of January 2012 at Oakland, California.

Jody London
President, Board of Education
Oakland Unified School District

Tony Smith
Superintendent
Oakland Unified School District