



**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HOWARD COUNTY
MEETING AGENDA ITEM**

TITLE: Proclamation Honoring African American History Month **DATE:** January 24, 2019

PRESENTER(S): Kevin Gilbert, Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Strategic Call to Action Alignment:

Student-Centered Practices, Inclusive Relationships

OVERVIEW:

In January 1986, the Howard County Public School System Board of Education approved the first proclamation that designated February as African American History Month. Staff is requesting that the attached, revised proclamation be approved for February 2019.

RECOMMENDATION/FUTURE DIRECTION:

Approve the attached Proclamation designating February 2019 as African American History Month by the Board in order to assure staff awareness of the celebration.

<p>SUBMITTED BY: _____</p> <p>Kevin F. Gilbert, Ed.D. Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion</p>	<p>APPROVAL/CONCURRENCE: _____</p> <p>Michael J. Martirano, Ed.D. Superintendent</p>
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Jahantab Siddiqui
Chief Communication,
Community/Workforce
Engagement Officer

Karalee Turner-Little
Deputy Superintendent



BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HOWARD COUNTY

PROCLAMATION

DESIGNATING FEBRUARY 2019

AS

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

WHEREAS, the theme for National African American History Month 2019 is: “Black Migrations;” and

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is best known for his role in the advancement of civil rights using nonviolent civil disobedience; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Howard County in 2012 issued a proclamation to repudiate the delay in the desegregation of Howard County Public School System, which was not fully achieved until 1965; and

WHEREAS, the Howard County Public School System is committed to providing every child, regardless of race, ethnicity, and social or economic demographic, with full access to educational opportunity; and

WHEREAS, the Howard County Public School System recognizes the importance of educating students about the struggles for equality that are part of America’s history so that this generation, and those that follow, do not take our hard-earned freedoms for granted; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Howard County Public School System is a proud member of the National School Boards Association Council of Urban Boards of Education, and actively supports its goals; and

WHEREAS, the Howard County Public School System partners with many civic and educational organizations to promote the academic achievement of students from pre-K through high school, including The Council of Elders of the Black Community of Howard County, the African American Community Roundtable, NAACP, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Continentals, Inc., Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and Links, Inc.;

THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Board of Education hereby designates February 2019 as African American History Month in the Howard County Public School System; and

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that this document serves to reinforce our commitment to recognizing the significant contributions of African Americans and to ensure that all children see themselves in the Howard County Public School System’s curriculum.

Mavis Ellis, Chair
Board of Education of Howard County

Michael J. Martirano, Superintendent
Howard County Public School System

January 24, 2019