



Northwest Regional Education Service District

RESOLUTION NO. 26-010

THIS RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTHWEST REGIONAL EDUCATION SERVICE DISTRICT IN CLATSOP, COLUMBIA, TILLAMOOK, AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES, OREGON, RECOGNIZES APRIL 1ST TO APRIL 30TH 2026 AS "ARAB AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH" HONORING ARAB AMERICAN ACHIEVEMENTS THROUGHOUT THE PAST AND PRESENT, IN ADDITION TO SERVING AS A TIME TO CHALLENGE ANTI-ARAB STEREOTYPES AND PREJUDICES.

WHEREAS, Arab Americans are people who live in the United States and are of Arab descent; "Arab" is a cultural and linguistic term and includes people of many faiths, races and ethnicities whose ancestry is rooted in any of the 22 Arab countries that span North Africa to Western Asia; and

WHEREAS, Arab Americans number nearly four million in the United States, with more than 30,000 living in Oregon and roughly 10,000 in our service area, contributing to the social, cultural, academic, civic and economic life of our communities; and

WHEREAS, Arab American communities reflect rich linguistic, religious, and cultural diversity, including people of many faiths such as Muslims, Christians, Druze, and Jews, and a wide range of Arabic dialects and cultural traditions, which strengthen the social and civic fabric of our schools and communities; and

WHEREAS, Arab American students, families, and staff too often experience discrimination, xenophobia, and stereotyping, and the recognition of Arab American Heritage Month is an opportunity for NWRESD to reaffirm its commitment to reject prejudice, protect civil rights, and cultivate welcoming, safe, and affirming learning environments for all; and

WHEREAS, integrating Arab American histories, literature, languages, and perspectives into classroom instruction and school activities supports culturally sustaining pedagogy, deepens students' historical and civic understanding, and prepares learners to participate respectfully and effectively in a diverse democracy; and

WHEREAS, Arab American Heritage Month, celebrated in April, recognizes the long and continuing contributions of Arab Americans to the arts, sciences, business, education, civic life and public service and promotes increased understanding of Arab cultures and histories;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE NORTHWEST REGIONAL EDUCATION SERVICE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS THAT NWRESD:

1. **Recognizes** April as Arab American Heritage Month and honors the many contributions Arab Americans have made and continue to make to our schools, communities and nation.
2. **Encourages** all schools, programs and staff to observe Arab American Heritage Month by promoting inclusive learning opportunities that intentionally reflect Arab American histories, cultures and contributions, and by integrating culturally responsive materials into classroom instruction and school activities.
3. **Directs** the Superintendent, or designee, to share this resolution with NWRESD staff, component districts, families and community partners and to provide guidance and resources to support curriculum, classroom activities and community events honoring Arab American Heritage Month.
4. **Encourages** NWRESD and component districts to partner with Arab American community organizations and cultural institutions to ensure authentic community voices and perspectives are centered in educational activities and celebrations.
5. **Affirms** NWRESD's ongoing commitment to equity, understanding and belonging for students, staff and families of Arab descent and to the development of learning environments that value diverse identities and experiences.

This Resolution is effective immediately upon adoption this 11th day of March, 2026.

NORTHWEST REGIONAL EDUCATION SERVICE
DISTRICT, CLATSOP, COLUMBIA, TILLAMOOK,
AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES, OREGON

By: Becky Tymchuk Chair

ATTEST:

By: [Signature] Superintendent

Resources for Continued Learning and Advocacy

This Arab American Heritage Month, we celebrate the histories, cultures, and contributions of Arab Americans. We invite you to expand your knowledge and awareness of the experiences and histories of Arab Americans. From lesson plans to movie recommendations, our resource list can help get you started.

Lesson Plans:

- [Arab American Heritage Month Resource Guide](#) (TeachMideast-Middle East Policy Council)
- [Arab American National Museum Lesson Plans](#) (Arab American National Museum) – note: lesson plans are in the drop-down menu on the right
- [Teaching Beyond September 11th](#) (University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education)

Webinars & Videos:

- [The Arab American Experience](#) (Comcast Newsmakers)
- [Arab American Heritage Month Webinar: Immigrant to EL Instructor](#) (TESOL International Association)
- [Arab | How You See Me](#)
- [Don't Erase Me: The Modern Arab American](#) (TEDxOhioStateUniversity)
- [We're Not White | Amer Zahr](#) (TEDxDetroit)
- [Why We Need Arab American Heritage Month](#) (NowThis)

Books:

- [A Map of Home](#), by Randa Jarrar
- [Arab in America](#), by Toufic El Rassi
- [Conditional Citizens: On Belonging in America](#), by Laila Lalami
- [Crescent Moons and Pointed Minarets: A Muslim Book of Shapes](#), by Hena Khan and illustrated by Mehrdokht Amini
- [The Girl in the Tangerine Scarf](#), by Mojha Kahf
- [Refugee](#), by Alan Gratz
- [The Turtle of Oman](#), by Naomi Shihab Nye

Articles:

- [American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee](#) (ADC)
- [Arab American Heritage Month 2026](#) (History.com)
- [Celebrating Arab American Heritage Month](#) (Learning for Justice)
- [Guide to Observing Arab American Heritage Month](#) (S.D. Office of Education)
- [How Teachers Can Support Arab-American Students](#) (Jennifer Gonzalez)
- [National Arab American Heritage Month](#) (Arab American Foundation)
- [Resources for Addressing Religious Discrimination](#) (MAEC)
- ["The Story of Arab & Muslim Students Is Often an Untold Story"](#) (EdWeek)
- [Supporting Arab American Students in the Classroom](#) (Learning for Justice)