"We believe that the histories, stories, and voices of Black people should be centered, honored, and uplifted in school curricula every day. We also acknowledge the importance, relevance and origins of Black History Month. In 1926, Carter D. Woodson and the ASALH (Association for the Study of African American Life and History) launched “Negro History Week” to promote the studying of African American history as a discipline and to celebrate the accomplishments of African Americans. Today, we still see the absence of Black history and experience in our textbooks, required readings, STEM, and overall curriculum of our educational system. As we enter February, Border Crossers is providing resources to be used beyond the scope of this one-month. Unless Black history is taught throughout the year, it perpetuates an “othering” of Black Lives and Black students, and is also a manifestation of anti-blackness. Ensuring the ongoing integration of Black history and experiences throughout all curriculum is imperative as educators continue to uplift every student and reinforce that Black Lives Matter everyday." - Center for Racial Justice in Education

Julio C. Nuñez, Assistant Principal of Philip H. Sheridan Elementary, Compiled a resource guide for educators and families to utilize for Black History Month

Click Here to Access Black History Month Resource Guide

As a part of the district's commitment to ensuring the our instructional resources are Culturally and Linguistically Inclusive these resources have been developed in collaboration with the Office of Academic Supports.

Click HERE to Access Black History Month Resources developed by the Office of Academics
Feb 1: National Freedom Day - Commemorating the day that President Abraham Lincoln signed a resolution that proposed the 13th Amendment. This amendment outlawed slavery and was ratified on December 18th 1865.

Feb 1: Chinese New Year (Year of the Tiger) - This holiday is celebrated around the first new moon of the year. In the zodiac the tiger is a sign of strength and braveness, thus the year is thought to be a year of great change and risk-taking.

Feb 14: Valentine's Day- Established in the 5th century by the Pope to replace the Pagan holiday, Lupercalia, and to celebrate Saint Valentine. However, it was not until the middle ages that the holiday was associated with love and romance.

Feb 15: Nirvana Day- This is a Buddhist holiday that remembers the death of Buddha when he reached Nirvana at the age of 80. The day is typically celebrated by meditating. In monasteries it is a social holiday celebrated with food and gift giving.

Feb 20: World Day of Social Justice - This holiday was established by the United Nations in 2007. The day was established to express how crucial social justice is to creating and maintaining peace and security for all.

Feb 21: Presidents' Day - This holiday was established to celebrate George Washington and Abraham Lincoln who's birthdays both fall in the month of February. While Washington’s birthday was unofficially celebrated after his death the holiday was we know it was not established until 1971.
Women's History Month Preview

The DEI Office is planning for Women's History Month! If you would like to help us plan for the month here are a few ways you can help:

- If your office or school is planning any events we would love to hear about it. Contact mgolobish@philasd.org
- Fill out this form to tell us about some of your favorite female driven media (books, podcasts, films, etc.)
- Send us a video of you answering the following prompt: "Being a woman means..." submissions can be sent here.