



# THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

## The School District of Philadelphia Celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month 2020

Hispanic Heritage Month 2020 kicked off on Tuesday, September 15, and ends on October 15. September 15 is a historically significant day which marks the anniversary of the independence of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. During this month we celebrate and recognize the history, contribution, and culture of the U.S. Latinx and Hispanic communities.

The School District of Philadelphia has in the past celebrated this special occasion by hosting an art exhibition with local artists at the Education Center but in light of the current global COVID-19 pandemic, the School District will not be hosting such an event this year. Instead, **we are encouraging our educators to take advantage of the resources below** to acknowledge and highlight the importance of cultural diversity among students, families and staff.

### [Latino/Hispanic Heritage Packet](#)

Teacher resources that include fun facts, texts, poems and even a list of videos, books and websites.

### [Latino Americans Share Their Experiences](#)

Students examine the challenges that three Latino Americans faced and overcame as they achieved success in their careers.

### [Free educational resources from PBS Learning Media](#)

In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, celebrated every year from September 15 to October 15, we have gathered free educational resources from PBS Learning Media. Explore the experiences, culture, and contributions of Hispanic Americans who have shaped Latino—and American—history.

[HERE](#) is a list of children's books titles about Hispanic organized by topic that can be used all year long! Many books on the recommended lists are bilingual or are available in Spanish!

The website for [National Hispanic Heritage](#) includes many of the resources you can use and it contains a page specifically created for teachers.

Fun facts you might not know!  
Did you know...

- The term Hispanic or Latino (or the more recent term Latinx) refers to a person’s culture or origin—regardless of race.
- The Hispanic population of the US as of July 1, 2019, is 60.6 million making people of Hispanic origin the nation’s largest ethnic or racial minority. Hispanics constituted 18.5% of the nation’s total population.
- Pennsylvania is one of the 12 states with a population of 1 million or more Hispanic residents in 2019
- In 2018, 71% of Latinos ages 5 and older spoke English proficiently, up from 59% in 2000.
- A record 32 million Latinos are projected to be eligible to vote in 2020, up from 27.3 million in 2016.