WHEREAS, César Estrada Chávez was a farm worker, civil rights leader, spiritual figure, environmentalist, consumer advocate, and crusader for nonviolent change, and

WHEREAS, His philosophy, “Sí se puede” or “It can be done,” influenced millions of students, middle class consumers, religious groups and minorities to seek economic and social equality; and

WHEREAS, Chávez achieved only an eighth-grade education, but through his tireless advocacy for the Latino community, he developed a sophisticated appreciation for the relationship between economic issues and political participation; and

WHEREAS, As a social entrepreneur, César Chávez founded the first successful farm workers union in American history whose mission was to reclaim dignity, fair wages, medical coverage, benefits and humane living conditions for hundreds of thousands of people; and

WHEREAS, on August 8, 1994, President Bill Clinton posthumously presented the Medal of Freedom, America’s highest civilian honor, to César E. Chávez; and

WHEREAS, many organizations and community leaders gather nationwide to honor and celebrate César E. Chávez Day through education and community service;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby honors and recognizes March 30, 2009 as César E. Chávez Day and encourages all to live by his vision for social justice through non-violence.

PASSED AND ADOPTED ON THIS 11th day of March, 2009.

Gari Browning, Ph.D., President/Superintendent
Ohlone Community College District
County of Alameda, State of California

Bill McMillin, Chair, Board of Trustees
Ohlone Community College District
County of Alameda, State of California