

September 17, 2024

APPROVED: DD:br

Board Meeting – September 17, 2024

Item VI. Consent Calendar Recommendations

- B. Adoption of Board Resolution No. 10 to Recognize October 25, 2024 as Larry Itliong Day

The Superintendent recommends that the County Board take action and approve Board Resolution No. 10 and declare October 25, 2024 as Larry Itliong Day and encourages districts to celebrate Filipino history and heritage and provide opportunities for students to explore the historical and cultural aspects of the Filipino American community and the Philippines.

Resolution No. 10 follows on the next page.

Next Steps:

- Send out LACOE Communication to the 80 districts to encourage districts, schools and community organizations to observe this day with appropriate programs and activities.
- Invite school districts to participate in professional development opportunities and access materials to build content knowledge of the subject and acquire instructional strategies to teach the topic effectively in classrooms.
- Provide support to districts to implement ethnic studies with intentionality of including the history and contributions of the group identified.

BOARD RESOLUTION

No. 10: 2024-25

Recognize October 25, 2024, as Larry Itliong Day

WHEREAS, Larry Itliong, who organized West Coast agricultural workers starting in the 1930s, was instrumental in shaping the farm labor movement; and

WHEREAS, Itliong rose to national prominence in 1965 when he and other Filipino American labor leaders helped create the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee and joined forces with Cesar Chavez, Dolores Huerta and the National Farmworkers Association in a nationwide boycott of grapes that led to the first farmworkers union contracts; and

WHEREAS, Itliong recognized the power of working across language and cultural barriers to fight for better conditions for all; and

WHEREAS, on October 25, the 108th anniversary of Itliong's birth, we recognize the contributions of Larry Itliong and other labor leaders whose hard-fought battles helped advance farmworkers' rights and social justice; and

WHEREAS, the State of California and the County of Los Angeles have declared October 25 as Larry Itliong Day; and


WHEREAS, his legacy continues to inspire the next generation of leaders across our state and nation; and

WHEREAS, the California State Assembly has passed AB 123 that requires all schools in California to include the contributions of Filipino Americans in the curriculum on the farm labor movement; and

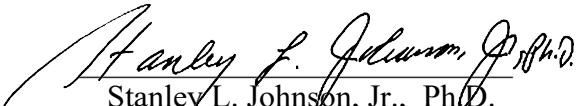
WHEREAS, Filipino American youth need positive role models like Larry Itliong and need to be provided opportunities to study his life and his role in the history of the labor movement, as well as the rich history and heritage of Filipino Americans; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Los Angeles County Board of Education hereby declares October 25 as Larry Itliong Day and encourages districts to celebrate Filipino history and heritage and provide opportunities for students to explore the historical and cultural aspects of the Filipino American community and the Philippines

ADOPTED this 17th day of September 2024, by the Los Angeles County Board of Education in Downey, California.



Debra Duardo, M.S.W., Ed.D.
Superintendent



Stanley L. Johnson, Jr., Ph.D.
Board President

Literacy Resources for Celebrating Larry Itliong Day (October 25)



Facts to Note:

October 25 was first proclaimed Larry Itliong Day in California in 2015

California Governor Jerry Brown proclaimed it a day to celebrate the life and legacy of trailblazing Filipino American labor leader and civil rights activist Larry Itliong.

([CA.Gov Official](#))

Larry Itliong was a Filipino American labor organizer and civil rights activists.

He was one of the founders of the United Farm Workers, which orchestrated the 1965-66 Delano Grape Strike and boycott.

([National Park Service](#))

Itliong's poor experience as a farm laborer led him to become an activist and organizer.

Immigrating to the U.S. in 1929 with hopes of becoming a lawyer, Itliong ended up as a West Coast farm laborer. He saw how badly laborers were treated and recognized the power they could gain by working together.

([California Museum](#))

Itliong was a leader in unionized farm work.

In 1956 Larry Itliong formed the Filipino Farm Labor Union, and by 1959 he led the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee (AWOC), which was multi-ethnic, but largely Filipino.

([National Park Service](#))

In an important cross-racial collaboration, Itliong worked with Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta to demand farm workers' rights and form the United Farm Workers.

Itliong led members of the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee (AWOC) into a grape strike but soon realized that Mexican-American farm workers could easily break the strike, leaving it pointless. So, Itliong convinced Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta, leaders of the National Farm Workers Association (NFWA) to join forces, creating the Delano Grape Strike. Chavez conceded. The two groups then merged, creating the United Farm Workers, a union of farm workers that still stands today.

([The History Channel](#))

Worthy Websites

- [About Larry Itliong](#), National Park Service
- [Larry Itliong](#), The History Channel
- [Larry Itliong](#), Britannica Kids
- [Journey for Justice: Larry Itliong](#), Social Justice Books

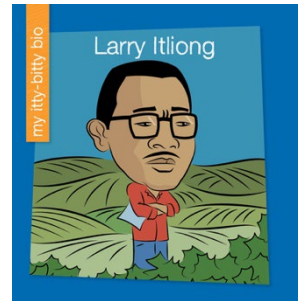
Books for Elementary Students

Larry Itliong

My Early Library: My Itty-Bitty Bio

By Virginia Loh-Hagan

This biography for the earliest readers examines the life of Larry "Seven Fingers" Itliong, a Filipino American labor organizer, in a simple, age-appropriate way that helps children develop word recognition and reading skills. The series celebrates diversity, covering women and men from a range of backgrounds and professions including immigrants and individuals with disabilities. Includes a timeline, primary sources, glossary, and index.



Books for Middle and High School Students

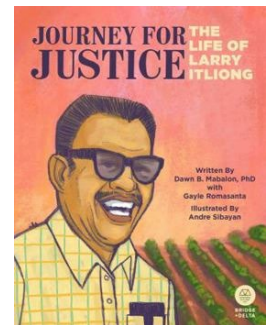
Journey for Justice

The Life of Larry Itliong

By Dawn Bohulano Mabalon with Gayle Romasanta

This book tells the story of labor organizer Larry Itliong, an incredibly important figure in Filipino American history, highlighting the struggles he faced and overcame and addressing the triumphs felt by generations born decades after his time.

Find teaching tools to accompany this book on [TeachingBooks.com](https://www.teachingbooks.com) and [socialjusticebooks.org](https://www.socialjusticebooks.org)



The Untold Story of Larry Itliong

Labor Rights Hero (First but Forgotten)

By Cristina Oxta

You may have read about Cesar Chavez's leadership in organizing the well-known Delano Grape Strike and Boycott of the 1960s. But did you know it began as a strike led by Larry Itliong? He was a Filipino labor organizer who had also been working with grape pickers in California at the time. With key biographical information and related historical events, this book will uncover Itliong's story and show how it connects to Chavez's story.

Find teaching tools to accompany this book on [TeachingBooks.com](https://www.teachingbooks.com)

