

RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING SCHOOL DISTRICT PARTICIPATION IN CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOL VOTER EDUCATION WEEKS

SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION No. 2220-3

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 1817 was signed by Governor Jerry Brown designating the last two full weeks in April and September as High School Voter Education Weeks to promote civic education and foster an environment that encourages voting; and

WHEREAS, California's Secretary of State, Alex Padilla, and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson are committed to strengthening democracy by encouraging voter registration and increasing participation in all elections by all eligible Californians; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education is partnering with government agencies and community based organizations to increase civic education and engagement through an initiative called "The Power of Democracy"; and

WHEREAS, Young people can play a critical role in our democracy by helping to choose the people who will lead us and by voicing their opinions on the issues that are important to them; and

WHEREAS, Santa Clara County youth (18 to 24 year olds) make up 11.1% of the county's electorate; and

WHEREAS, Silicon Valley (Santa Clara and San Mateo counties) the youth eligible voter turnout was 42.7 %; and

WHEREAS, Silicon Valley youth eligible voter turnout was the lowest for all age groups; and

WHEREAS, 16 and 17 year olds can now pre-register to vote and then automatically become active voters once they turn 18;

WHEREAS, In order to vote in California elections, citizens must be registered to vote 15 days before the election takes place;

WHEREAS, The California State Voter Registration deadline is May 21, 2018 to participate in the June 5th California statewide primary elections;

WHEREAS, The California Secretary of State have declared September 18-29, 2017 and April 16 – 27, 2018 as California High School Voter Education Weeks; now, therefore, be it

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Clara County Board of Education and County Superintendent of Schools does hereby adopt this resolution to encourage Santa Clara County Schools to participate in California High School Voter Education Weeks.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Santa Clara County Board of Education at a meeting held on April 4, 2018, by the following vote:

AYES: President Kamei, members Di Salvo, Green, King, Rossi, Mah and Song NOES: --none--ABSTAIN: --none--ABSENT: --none--

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Rosemary Kamei, President Santa Clara County Board of Education

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//Dr. Mary Ann Dewan County Superintendent of Schools