

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION No. 2298-4**

WHEREAS, May is National Foster Care Month, a campaign established to recognize the importance of collaborative relationships among community organizations working to support youth in foster care programs; and

WHEREAS, in the United States there are over 407,000 children and youth in foster care, with the number of children in foster care in 2019 almost equal to those in care in 2009 (423,773); and

WHEREAS, in 2019-2020 academic year 45,307 students in California were reported by the California Department of Education to be in foster care; and

WHEREAS, in the 2020-2021 academic year 0.18%, or 467, of students from Santa Clara County public schools were reported to be in foster care; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) is committed to improving the academic and social-emotional outcomes of foster youth; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE provides services to children and youth in foster care through Foster & Homeless Youth Services (FHY). By providing assistance and training to local education agencies (LEAs), FHY connects school districts and community partners and keeps them abreast on educational law that protects youth who are in foster care and experiencing homelessness; and

WHEREAS, FHY manages a Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program funded by the California Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE provides Foster Vision, a sustainable and free service to all school districts in Santa Clara County to facilitate tracking foster youth educational status, placement changes, and improvement of services, through a collection of data from districts and public agencies; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE co-leads the education manager program with the County of Santa Clara Social Services Agency; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE hosts a community of practice for school district foster youth liaisons. In August 2021 a county-wide Steering Committee was established, with partnership from community-based organizations and agencies, to improve educational outcomes for youth who are in foster care, experiencing homeless or justice engaged; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Clara County Board of Education and County Superintendent of Schools do hereby adopt this resolution to recognize May as National Foster Care Month and supports foster youth in education in Santa Clara County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Santa Clara County Board of Education at a meeting held on April 20, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: President Ortiz, Vice President Chon and Trustees Di Salvo, Kamei, Mah, Rossi, and Sreekrishnan

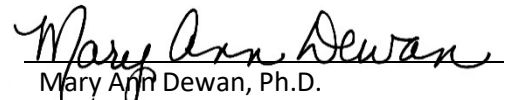
NOES: none

ABSTAIN: none

ABSENT: none



Peter Ortiz, President
Santa Clara County Board of Education



Mary Ann Dewan, Ph.D.
County Superintendent of Schools