

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MAY 9 AS NATIONAL FENTANYL AWARENESS DAY

SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION No. 2318-1

WHEREAS, in 2022 the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) recognized the first National Fentanyl Awareness Day, an opportunity to educate the community about the dangers of illicit fentanyl; and

WHEREAS, May 9th is being recognized as the 2023 National Fentanyl Awareness Day; and

WHEREAS, drug traffickers mass-produce fake or counterfeit pills in an effort to falsely market them as legitimate prescription pills and/or candy, resulting in deceptions and threats to communities throughout the nation and locally; and

WHEREAS, the DEA has observed a dramatic rise in the number of counterfeit pills containing at least two milligrams of fentanyl, which is considered a deadly dose; and

WHEREAS, fake or counterfeit pills have been identified in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. These fake or counterfeit pills are easily accessible and often sold on social media and e-commerce platforms, making them available to teens and youth. Fentanyl is involved in more youth deaths than all other drug-related deaths combined; and

WHEREAS, over the last 20 years, drug-induced deaths among those 15 to 35 years of age have increased six-fold, largely driven by the increase in fentanyl drugs. Fentanyl-involved deaths are the fastest growing among 14 to 23-year-olds; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, drug overdose and poisoning deaths for persons 14 to 18 years of age grew by 169 percent, more than three times as fast as the national rate and faster than any other five-year age group; and

WHEREAS, the California Departments of Public Health, Health Care Access and Information, and Justice, along with the California Health Care Foundation established a dashboard monitoring overdoses in the state, and each county; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, 154 opioid-related overdose deaths were recorded in Santa Clara County, 31 of which were youth aged 15-24, and 11 ages 10-19; and

WHEREAS, Santa Clara County's Fentanyl Working Group is a model for future county working groups throughout the state. The county working group includes the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE), the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office, Santa Clara County Opioid Overdose Prevention Project (SCCOOPP), and the Santa Clara County Behavioral Health Service; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) collaborates to address the dangers of fentanyl specific to youth and works with municipalities and educational organizations to share collateral specific to campaigns aimed at youth; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE is co-sponsoring Senate Bill 10 (SB 10) which aims to prevent opioid and fentanyl poisoning, overdoses and death among California youth. The bill would require school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools to include opioid prevention and treatment in School Safety Plans; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE has provided Narcan/Naloxone training and kits to school staff and community members throughout the county. Nearly 1,300 Narcan/Naloxone kits were distributed through 43 distribution events. In Santa Clara County 103 schools have access to Narcan/Naloxone on campus with supporting board policies in place; and

WHEREAS, to support student well-being, the student wellness centers in schools located across the county aid youth experiencing substance abuse; and

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Santa Clara County Board of Education and County Superintendent of Schools do hereby adopt this resolution to recognize May 9, 2023 as National Fentanyl Awareness Day and support the work at all levels to protect the wellbeing of youth.

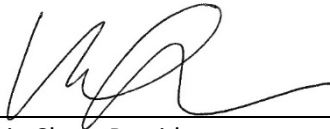
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the County Board of Education at a meeting held on May 3, 2023, by the following vote:

AYES: President Chon, Vice President Sreekrishnan, and Trustees Berta, Di Salvo, Mah, and Rocha

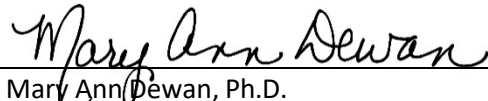
NOES: none

ABSTAIN: none

ABSENT: Trustee Lari



Victoria Chon, President
Santa Clara County Board of Education



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