

RESOLUTION DENOUNCING XENOPHOBIA DUE TO FEARS OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND AFFIRMING THE SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION'S COMMITMENT TO THE WELL-BEING AND SAFETY OF ASIAN AMERICAN STAFF AND STUDENTS

SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION No. 2262-5

WHEREAS, Asian American communities are suffering acts of discrimination, hate crimes, and microaggressions due to fears of COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, scientists have confirmed that the COVID-19 disease does not respect borders and is not caused by ethnicity, and the World Health Organization has cautioned against using geographic descriptors because they can fuel ethnic discrimination; and,

WHEREAS, in Santa Clara County, one of the first minority-majority counties in the nation, Asians have been the largest racial group since 2014, and currently, Asians make up nearly 38 percent of the county's population; and,

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education is committed to serving, inspiring, and promoting all students and public school success and is especially aware of the trauma and isolation that is accompanying the COVID-19 global pandemic; and,

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education affirms its commitment to the well-being and safety of Asian American community members and ensures that they are not alone and will be supported in helping to stop the spread of the xenophobia;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County Board of Education continues to support its Asian American community members and denounces any and all xenophobia related to COVID-19 and beyond.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the County Board of Education at a meeting held on May 6, 2020, by the following vote:

AYES: President Rossi, Vice President King, Trustees Di Salvo, Kamei, Mah, Ortiz, and Song NOES: none ABSTAIN: none ABSENT: none

Claudia Rossi, President Santa Clara County Board of Education

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