

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH**

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
RESOLUTION No. 2441-1**

**WHEREAS**, June is nationally recognized as Caribbean American Heritage Month. In June 2005, the House of Representatives unanimously adopted H. Con. Res. 71, sponsored by Congresswoman Barbara Lee of California, recognizing the significance of Caribbean people and their descendants in the history and culture of the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 14, 2006, the resolution passed the Senate resulting in a Proclamation issued by President George W. Bush on June 6, 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, Caribbean Americans have been advocating to be recognized since 1999 when a petition by the Institute of Caribbean Studies (ICS) was sent to President Bill Clinton, requesting Caribbean Heritage Month to be honored; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the [Migration Policy Institute](#), there are more than 8.5 million individuals that were born in the Caribbean or have Caribbean ancestry living in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2022, there were 109,786 new immigrants from the Caribbean to the United States, according to Migration Policy Institute; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the Migration Policy Institute, there are more than 68,000 individuals that were born in the Caribbean or have Caribbean ancestry in California; and

**WHEREAS**, in the 2020-2021 school year, there were approximately 11,200 Caribbean students enrolled in United States higher education, according to Migration Policy Institute; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) goal of improving access to inclusive, equitable, and high-quality education, the SCCOE creates and supports efforts to help youth feel accepted and supported while at school; and

**WHEREAS**, in partnership with the National Association for Bilingual Education (NABE), the SCCOE launched the My Name, My Identity Initiative, a campaign that promotes awareness of valuing students' cultures and languages by learning about their stories, unique names, and proper pronunciations. A [My Name, My Identity toolkit](#) has been created to support educators in their lessons creating inclusive classrooms; now

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Santa Clara County Board of Education and County Superintendent of Schools do hereby adopt this resolution recognizing the month of June as Caribbean American Heritage Month.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the County Board of Education at a meeting held on May 15, 2024, by the following vote:

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

NOES: none

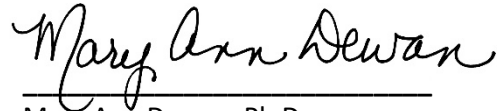
ABSTAIN: none

ABSENT: none



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Maimona Afzal Berta, President  
Santa Clara County Board of Education



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