

**RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING NATIONAL FOSTER CARE AWARENESS MONTH**

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Resolution No. 2223-1**

WHEREAS, May is National Foster Care Awareness Month, a month set aside to acknowledge foster parents, family members, volunteers, mentors, policymakers, child welfare professionals, and other members of the community who help children in foster care find permanent homes, healthy connections, and the resources to lead a successful and rewarding life; and

WHEREAS, established more than 20 years ago, National Foster Care Awareness Month is a time to bring foster care issues to the forefront, recognize the struggles of children in foster care, and renew our commitment to ensuring a bright future for the more than 400,000 children and youth in foster care throughout the nation and the over 1500 children and youth locally that need our help in finding a path to success; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that youth in foster care are much more likely to face educational instability, the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) through its Foster Youth Services team works diligently, collaborating with school districts and organizations, to promote the awareness and needs of local foster youth and to support the many community efforts and programs that make a meaningful difference in the lives of these children; and

WHEREAS, serving students in foster care supports our vision of equity, inclusion, and access the SCCOE created FosterVision, a secure, data-sharing system that facilitates tracking foster youth educational status, placement changes, and improvement of services, through a collection of data from districts and public agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Foster Youth Task Force was established to explore what the County and the County Office of Education can do to ensure the County's foster youth achieve success in, among other areas, education, employment, health, housing and independent living skills; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program, Bill Wilson Center, and The Hub (Santa Clara County), are hosting a 2018 Foster Care Awareness Month event on May 22, at San Jose City Hall Rotunda featuring motivational speaker and author Derek Clark, a former foster youth from Alameda County, who travels around the world to speak with youth, teachers, administrators, and others; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Clara County Board of Education and County Superintendent of Schools proclaim May 2018 as National Foster Care Awareness Month

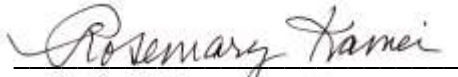
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Santa Clara County Board of Education at a meeting held on May 16, 2017, by the following vote:

AYES: President Kamei, members Di Salvo, Green, King, Rossi, Mah and Song

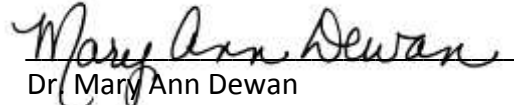
NOES: --none--

ABSTAIN: --none--

ABSENT: --none--



Rosemary Kamei, President
Santa Clara County Board of Education



Dr. Mary Ann Dewan
County Superintendent of Schools