

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUESTIONING (LGBTQ)
PRIDE MONTH AND HARVEY MILK DAY**

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION No. 2300-4**

WHEREAS, June is nationally recognized as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning (LGBTQ) Pride Month, highlighting the work to achieve equal justice and equal opportunity for LGBTQ Americans; and

WHEREAS, June 2022, marks the 53rd anniversary of the Stonewall uprising in New York City, which sparked the gay rights movement; and

WHEREAS, Harvey Milk was the first openly gay elected official in the history of California and, at the time of his death, the most recognized political advocate for LGBTQ rights in the United States. His election to office in the United States marked an important moment for LGBTQ political representation, inspiring countless LGBTQ people to follow in his footsteps. California recognizes Harvey Milk Day on May 22nd; and

WHEREAS communities today are undergoing rapid cultural and political change around the treatment of sexual minorities and gender diversity; Pride month is an opportunity to continue to become educated, engage in dialogue, strengthen alliances and build understanding; and

WHEREAS, on June 15, 2020, in a landmark decision for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer/questioning (LGBTQ) persons, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that employment discrimination based on a person's sexual orientation or gender identity violates Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and thus is illegal; and

WHEREAS, federal and local policies and practices are increasingly acknowledging and focusing on LGBTQ youth and numerous national advocacy and other organizations are giving greater attention to LGBTQ youth in their work. Acceptance and support for all youth, including those who are LGBTQ, make communities and schools safer places; and

WHEREAS, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youth in California experience higher rates of poor emotional health, substance use and school absences compared with their straight-identified youth. [One survey](#) noted that LGBTQ youth who live in a community that is accepting of LGBTQ people reported significantly lower rates of attempting suicide than those who do not; and

WHEREAS, a [2022 survey](#) found 73% of LGBTQ youth reported that they have experienced discrimination based on their sexual orientation or gender identity at least once in their lifetime; 71% of transgender nonbinary youth reported that they have experienced discrimination based on their gender identity; and

WHEREAS, 45% of LGBTQ youth seriously considered suicide in the past year including more than half of transgender and nonbinary youth (53%) and 1 in 3 cisgender youth (33%); 14% of LGBTQ youth attempted suicide in the past year including nearly 1 in 5 transgender and nonbinary youth (19%) and nearly 1 in 10 cisgender youth (9%); and

WHEREAS, state law under the FAIR Education Act, Senate Bill 48, requires that California K-12 schools provide Fair, Accurate, Inclusive and Respectful (FAIR) representations of people with disabilities and people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender in our curricula, and the inclusions of LGBTQ history in kindergarten through 12-grade education; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE is actively working to create more inclusive policies and practices that support, and uplift LGBTQ youth, encourage students, staff, and community members to utilize the SCCOE LGBTQ website (<https://www.sccoe.org/LGBTQ/>) and its resources (5157 AR, BP 5157, 4031 SP, 5145.9 BP). As an [Out for Safe Schools collective](#), the SCCOE supports districts with practices and initiatives focused on safe and supportive learning environments; and

WHEREAS, in partnership with the County of Santa Clara Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Affairs, the Santa Clara County Behavior Health Services's QCorner, Santa Clara County Youth Space, The Bay Area Municipal Elections Committee (BAYMEC), the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) provides support to districts and stakeholders to support the LGBTQ students and community through services including the Safe & Healthy Schools department; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE works throughout the year to cultivate a positive environment by offering holistic support for all students through the Foster & Homeless Youth Services programs, suicide prevention, student wellness, school climate, anti-bullying, and positive behavior intervention programs; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE School Wellness Centers empower LGBTQ youth by increasing access to supports that address physical, mental, emotional, and social support at school In collaboration creating a system that supports the school-community-continuum-of-care; and

WHEREAS, a commitment has been made by the SCCOE and the Santa Clara County Government Center to demonstrate their solidarity to the LGBTQ community and support of inclusive and welcoming environments for all by permanently raising the Rainbow Pride Flag; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE is an institute of learning that is committed to serving, inspiring, and promoting student and public school success while lifting up equity, diversity, inclusion, and partnership; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Clara County Board of Education and the County Superintendent of Schools recognize and honor June as National LGBTQ Pride Month as well as May 22nd as Harvey Milk Day and remain committed to inspiring equity, creating alliances, celebrating diversity, and establishing safe environments in our schools and communities throughout the county.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Santa Clara County Board of Education at a meeting held on May 18, 2021, by the following vote:

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

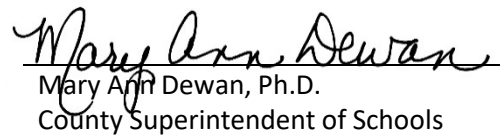
NOES: none

ABSTAIN: none

ABSENT: none



Peter Ortiz, President
Santa Clara County Board of Education



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