

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING LYME DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION No. 2464-12

WHEREAS, the month of May is recognized as Lyme Disease Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, Lyme disease is primarily caused by the bacterium Borrelia burgdorferi and is transmitted to humans through the bite of infected blacklegged ticks; and

WHEREAS, Lyme disease is the fastest growing vector-borne illness in the United States (U.S.); and

WHEREAS, the blacklegged tick is found in 50 percent of the U.S. counties with a concentration in the Northeast, upper Midwest, and Western regions of the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, when Lyme and tick-borne diseases are not quickly and properly diagnosed or treated, it may result in severe illness, disability, or death. In 2024, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) added Lyme disease to the list of disease agents that have been linked to chronic symptoms; and

WHEREAS, ticks that carry Lyme disease can carry other pathogens, many of which are reported in California and often cause co-infections (an infection with more than one tick-borne pathogen), which complicates diagnosis and treatment; and

WHEREAS, tick-borne diseases are a clinical diagnosis based on symptoms, physical findings, and the potential of exposure to infected ticks or their habitat; and

WHEREAS, to protect ourselves from potential tick bites while in a tick habitat, the Santa Clara County Vector Control District suggests staying in the middle of trails and to avoid touching logs, tree trunks, grassy areas, fallen branches, and leaf piles; and

WHEREAS, students who are affected by Lyme disease and Lyme disease-like symptoms may be at greater risk of having their school attendance impacted; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Clara County Board of Education and the County Superintendent of Schools do hereby adopt this resolution recognizing May as Lyme Disease Awareness Month.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the County Board of Education at a meeting held on May 21, 2025, by the following vote:

AYES: Jessica Speiser, Raeena Lari, Don Rocha, Maimona Afzal Berta, Victoria Chon, Jorge Pacheco, Tara

Sreekrishnan NOES: none ABSTAIN: none ABSENT: none

Maimona Afzal Berta, President Santa Clara County Board of Education Dr. David M. Toston Sr.

County Superintendent of Schools