

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING NATIONAL IMMIGRANT HERITAGE MONTH

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION No. 2464-9**

WHEREAS, recognizing the month of June as National Immigrant Heritage Month acknowledges and celebrates the accomplishments and contributions immigrants have made shaping the history and enriching the culture of the United States; and

WHEREAS, whether arriving to seek safety or opportunity, immigrants are integral to the identity and growth of California. Many Californians can trace their heritage to other nations. According to the [California Budget & Policy Center](#), the Golden State is home to more than 11 million immigrants, making up 28 percent of the state population (the largest percentage of immigrant residents of any state); and

WHEREAS, the [New Americans in Santa Clara County Report](#) states there were more than 765,000 immigrants living in Santa Clara County making up over 40 percent of the total population; and

WHEREAS, the [County of Santa Clara Office of Immigrant Relations](#) welcomes, includes, and supports the immigrant community through community service, engagement, and advocacy. The Office of Immigrant Relations also provides educational opportunities to young adults through its New American Fellowship, which offers students of mixed status with a unique experience to build their leadership and professional skills by learning and contributing to county services and programs; and

WHEREAS, the [National Center on Safe Supportive Learning Environments](#) reports that “sense of belonging refers to the extent to which students feel personally accepted, included, and supported at school, and includes school-based experiences, students’ relationships with teachers and peers, and students’ general feelings about school” and notes that when students feel a strong sense of belonging they are more engaged and achieve higher levels of academic performance; and

WHEREAS, to provide inclusive, equitable, high-quality education to every child in the county, the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) creates, establishes, and sustains initiatives and programs that encourage students to learn about and embrace different cultures; and

WHEREAS, the Innovations Collaborative of the SCCOE builds a culture that promotes equity, inclusion, and belonging, valuing every student by strengthening, sustaining, and ensuring inclusive practices. The Innovations Collaborative provides training and coaching to educators, families, after-school programs, and community agencies to reduce and remove barriers for everyone in the community and learning environments. In addition, the WarmLine offers individualized supports in multiple languages for parents, teachers, and community members working with children with a variety of needs; 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; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE celebrates National Bilingual/Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month during April, engaging students, families, educators, and the greater community in the strengths of reading, speaking, and writing in multiple languages. An advocacy month showcase, and student art exhibit was held on April 24, as part of National Bilingual/Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month; 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 and honoring June as National Immigrant Heritage 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