

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JUNETEENTH

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION No. 2465-1**

WHEREAS, June 19th is nationally recognized as Juneteenth - the oldest known American celebration of the ending of slavery; and

WHEREAS, more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation of January 1, 1863, Union soldiers arrived in Galveston, Texas on June 19th to announce the Civil War had ended and that enslaved people were now free. Juneteenth Day celebrations have since been held to commemorate African American freedom from slavery; and

WHEREAS, honoring this day, more than 150 years later, helps us learn our history and better understand the experiences of African Americans that shaped this nation; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) advocates for the continuance of the tradition of celebrating Juneteenth to acknowledge and condemn the atrocities and degradation of our shared past and honors this day of resilience in the face of injustice and inhumanity for present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE acknowledges the historical relevance of this significant event and the generational trauma that accompanies being subject to racism, discrimination, and prejudice as a barrier to positive mental and physical health and well-being, economic opportunity, and academic achievement; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE remains committed to improving student equity and access to high quality education as well as to providing quality support to districts, schools, students, and communities; and

WHEREAS, professional learning opportunities and supports are available to educators through the School Climate, Leadership and Instruction Department, Civic Engagement initiative, and the Innovation Collaborative; 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 the 19th of June as Juneteenth 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 County Board of Education at a meeting held on June 11, 2025, by the following vote:

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

NOES: none

ABSTAIN: none

ABSENT: Raeena Lari



Maimona Afzal Berta, President
Santa Clara County Board of
Education



Dr. David M. Toston, Sr.
County Superintendent of Schools