

## RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING LESBIAN, GAY, TRANSGENDER, QUEER (LGBTQ) PRIDE MONTH

## SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION No. 2244-1

**WHEREAS**, the month of June is set aside to celebrate the LGBTQ community, raise awareness and acceptance, and recognize the contribution that the LGBTQ community have made throughout history and in the present; and

WHEREAS, according to a recent student by Project Cornerstone in Santa Clara County 2,426 or 7-percent of students identify as LGBTQ. Of this student group, only 11-percent report feeling valued by their communities. These young people are reported as three times more likely to attempt suicide. A recent university study also shows that of the 1.6 million homeless youth in this country, 40-percent identify as LGBTQ; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to support localized efforts that support LGBTQ youth including student and school resources that focus on positive behavioral interventions and support, addressing school climate that eliminates bullying and increases parent engagement, as well as provide tools for student health and wellness; and

**WHEREAS,** in partnership with the County of Santa Clara Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Affairs, SCCOE provides support to districts and stakeholders to support the LGBTQ student and community through services including the Safe & Healthy Schools program and the History-Social Science program; and

WHEREAS, Safe & Healthy Schools work 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. They provide the tools necessary to ensure that schools are safe spaces for all students; 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. The FAIR ACT is intended the exclusion of LGBTQ history in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup>grade education. The California Safe Schools Coalition has demonstrated that an inclusive curriculum that includes LGBTQ people and issues promotes a safer school climate; and

**WHEREAS**, the SCCOE History-Social Science department supports the FAIR Education Act by by providing professional development and resources for schools including an LGBTQ History Curriculum workshop created in partnership with the UC Berkeley History-Social Science Project to help educators explore and implement the FAIR Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the SCCOE Civic Engagement Initiative supports the FAIR Act by promoting resources for educators and hosting a TweetChat, online opportunity for educators to exchange ideas and share best practices to promote FAIR Education in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE recognizes LGBTQ community leaders such as former District 4 Santa Clara County Supervisor Ken Yeager for his decades long commitment to providing supports for the LGBTQ community through advocacy and county partnerships providing education and services to individuals with HIV, promoting HIV/AIDS prevention and care services, authoring a history booklet entitled Battle Against HIV/AIDS, and his leadership of Bay Area Municipal Elections Committee (BAYMEC); and

**WHEREAS**, the Santa Clara County has community centers serving LGTBQ youth including the Billy DeFrank Center and a newly launched shelter called The New Haven Inn. Both area invaluable resources for our youth.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Santa Clara County Board of Education and County Superintendent proclaim June as LGBTQ Month to inspire equity, create alliances, celebrate diversity, and establish 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 June 12, 2019, by the following vote:

AYES: President Kamei, Vice President Song, trustees King, Mah, Ortiz and Rossi

NOES: none ABSTAIN: none

ABSENT: Trustee Di Salvo

Rosemary Kamei, President

Santa Clara County Board of Education

Dr. Mary Ann Dewan

County Superintendent of Schools