

RESOLUTION RECOGNITION OF CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION No: 2320-2

WHEREAS, June is nationally recognized as Caribbean American Heritage Month. Since June 2006 this recognition has honored the long standing contributions that Caribbean Americans have made; and

WHEREAS, Caribbean Americans have been advocating to be recognized since 1999 when a petition by the Institute of Caribbean Studies (ICS) was sent to President Bill Clinton, requesting Caribbean Heritage Month to be honored; and

WHEREAS, according to the [Migration Policy Institute](#), there are more than 8.5 million individuals that were born in the Caribbean or have Caribbean ancestry in the United States; and

WHEREAS, in the 2020-2021 school year, there were approximately 11,200 Caribbean students enrolled in United States higher education, according to [Migration Policy Institute](#). In 2019, 67 percent of people who identify as Caribbean compose the labor force, the same amount as immigrants overall and five percent more than people born in the United States; and

WHEREAS, according to the [Migration Policy Institute](#), there are over 750 thousand people who are immigrants in the San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara area. This ratio of immigrant to resident population ranks second in the United States; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) goal of improving access to inclusive, equitable and high quality education, the SCCOE creates and supports efforts to help make youth feel accepted and supported while at school; 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

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Santa Clara County Board of Education and County Superintendent of Schools do hereby adopt this resolution recognizing the month of June as Caribbean American Heritage Month.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the County Board of Education at a meeting held on June 14, 2023, by the following vote:

AYES: President Chon, Vice President Sreekrishnan, and Trustees Berta, Di Salvo, Lari, Mah, and Rocha

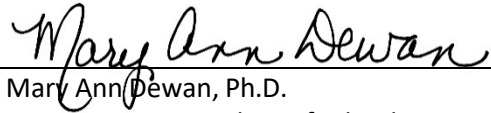
NOES: none

ABSTAIN: none

ABSENT: none



Victoria Chon, President
Santa Clara County Board of Education



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