

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AMERICAN MUSLIM APPRECIATION AND AWARENESS MONTH

SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION No. 2468-3

WHEREAS, the month of August is recognized as American Muslim Appreciation and Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, the significant contributions of Muslims are not new to America. Historians have evidence that Muslims were among the early European explorers and settlers both as mapmakers and guides. Estevanico of Azamor, a Moroccan guide who landed in Florida in 1527, is often cited as the first documented Muslim in America; and

WHEREAS, the first significant migration of Muslims to America was during the three centuries of the slave trade where an estimated 10 to 50 percent of the 10 million Africans brought to America against their will were Muslims; and

WHEREAS, California History–Social Science standards include lessons on analyzing the geographic, political, economic, religious, and social structures of the civilizations of Islam including within World History and Geography; and

WHEREAS, according to [Pew Research, Muslim Americans are estimated at 3.45 million people](#) of all ages, including 2.15 million adults; and

WHEREAS, approximately 250,000 Muslims live in the San Francisco Bay Area and make up at least 3.5 percent of the population; and

WHEREAS, Santa Clara County has a thriving community with over 60,000 Muslim residents who make rich contributions to the social, cultural, and economic vibrancy of our community; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) is committed to its key principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion. The SCCOE's [Innovation Collaborative's Ways 2 Equity Playbook](#) offers districts and schools assistance in beginning and growing their equitable and inclusive practices and environments; 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 August as American Muslim Appreciation and Awareness Month.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the County Board of Education at a meeting held on July 16, 2025, by the following vote:

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

NOES: none

ABSTAIN: none

ABSENT: Victoria Chon

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Maimona Afzal Berta". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M'.

Maimona Afzal Berta, President
Santa Clara County Board of Education

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dr. David M. Toston, Sr.". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D'.

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