

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING ATTENDANCE AWARENESS MONTH

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION No. 2445-2**

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Board of Education and the County Superintendent of Schools join educational communities throughout the country to recognize September as Attendance Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, in the 2022-23 school year, at least [1.4 million students](#) in California were chronically absent; and

WHEREAS, chronically absent is defined as missing 10 percent (18 school days) or more school days for any reason - excused and unexcused absences and suspensions; and

WHEREAS, school attendance is directly linked to students making connections with both their peers and school staff, to nurturing a sense of belonging, and to academic performance; and

WHEREAS, healthy attendance habits can be established as early as preschool and kindergarten. Thriving attendance supports students being proficient readers by third grade, having higher achievement rates in middle, and higher graduation rates at the high school level; and

WHEREAS, absenteeism has risen among all student groups, at every economic level. Black, Latino and Native American students, students living in poverty, students with disabilities and English language learners have been especially affected; and

WHEREAS, monitoring and tracking attendance is key to strategically responding to the academic and social losses experienced by millions of students, including the development of skills such as listening, paying attention, problem-solving and self-regulation, all of which are needed to grow and learn; and

WHEREAS, the [chronic absenteeism rate for Santa Clara County](#) in the 2022-23 school year was 19 percent compared to the state percentage of 25; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education's [Attendance and Engagement team](#) offers technical assistance to schools and districts; and

WHEREAS, other partnerships to support attendance and engagement include the [Santa Clara County Attendance Collaborative \(SCCAC\)](#) and [Attendance Works](#); and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education's [Steps to Success](#) initiative also provides attendance support for early childhood education; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Clara County Board of Education and the County Superintendent of Schools acknowledge the importance of healthy school attendance and its links to student success and hereby recognizes September as Attendance Awareness Month.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the County Board of Education at a meeting held on August 7, 2024, by the following vote:

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

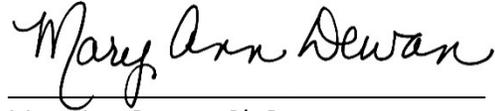
NOES: none

ABSTAIN: none

ABSENT: none



Maimona Afzal Berta, President
Santa Clara County Board of Education



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