

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AUGUST 31 AS INTERNATIONAL OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY

SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION No. 2445-1

WHEREAS, August 31st is internationally observed as Overdose Awareness Day, a time to remember those who lost their lives to the drug overdose epidemic; and

WHEREAS, the Whitehouse, in a 2023 proclamation, called upon the nation *to raise awareness of substance use disorder to combat stigmatization, to promote treatment and celebrate recovery, and to strengthen our collective efforts to prevent overdose deaths*; and

WHEREAS, drug overdoses are now the leading cause of injury-related deaths. Almost twice as many people die from drug overdose than are killed in car accidents. Nearly 108,000 people died in the U.S. from a drug-involved overdose, according to the [National Institute on Drug Abuse](#); and

WHEREAS, over the last 20 years, drug-induced deaths among those 15 to 35 years of age have increased six-fold, largely driven by the increase in fentanyl. Fentanyl-involved deaths are the fastest growing among 14 to 23-year-olds; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, 420 drug-related deaths were recorded in Santa Clara County. 231 deaths were recorded related to opioids. 205 of which were related to fentanyl; and

WHEREAS, Santa Clara County's Fentanyl Working Group is a model for county working groups throughout the state. The County working group includes the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE), the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office, Santa Clara County Opioid Overdose Prevention Project (SCCOOPP), the Santa Clara County Behavioral Health Service as well as other partners; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE collaborates to address the dangers of fentanyl specific to youth and works with municipalities and educational organizations to share collateral specific to campaigns aimed at youth; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE participates in National Fentanyl Awareness Day, the first Tuesday of May, encouraging families to have discussions that empower youth with information to help them make healthy and safe decisions; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE has provided Narcan/Naloxone training and kits to school staff and community members throughout the county. A [Naloxone Training Resource Guide](#) has been developed and made available. Approximately 3,000 Narcan/Naloxone kits have been distributed through distribution events and trainings. 365 staff and community members are trained in recognizing the signs of an opioid overdose and using naloxone in an emergency; and

WHEREAS, to support student well-being, student wellness centers in schools located across the county aid youth experiencing substance use and abuse and support wellness and prevention efforts; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Santa Clara County Board of Education and County Superintendent of Schools do hereby adopt this resolution to recognize August 31, 2024, as International Overdose Awareness Day and support the work at all levels to protect the wellbeing of youth.

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

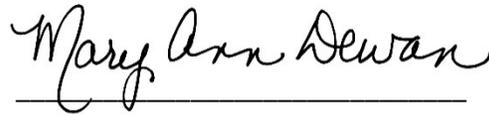
NOES: none

ABSTAIN: none

ABSENT: none



Maimona Afzal Berta, President
Santa Clara County Board of Education



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