

RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING AND HONORING NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH
2021 THEME - ESPERANZA: A CELEBRATION OF HISPANIC HERITAGE AND HOPE

SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION No. 2287-1

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) is honored to join citizens throughout the country in recognizing September 15, 2021, as the start of National Hispanic Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, every year, since 1968, from September 15 to October 15 our country has celebrated Hispanic culture and contributions to our community and nation; and

WHEREAS, historically the Santa Clara County Board of Education has unanimously passed the previous resolutions highlighting each year's theme and the contributions that Hispanic Americans are making within the county, state, and nation; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 theme for National Hispanic Heritage Month: *Esperanza: A Celebration of Hispanic Heritage and Hope*, invites us to celebrate Hispanic Heritage and to reflect on how great our tomorrow can be if we hold onto our resilience and hope. It encourages us to reflect on all of the contributions Hispanics have made in the past and will continue to make in the future. It is also a reminder that we are stronger together.; and

WHEREAS, this is an opportunity to share the historical contributions of Hispanic Americans that have significantly impacted education. Pioneers such as Roberto Alvarez whose groundbreaking case *Roberto Alvarez v Lemon Grove School District (CA, 1931)* was the first successful school desegregation case in American history; and

WHEREAS, throughout the year, we honor the contributions of Hispanic Americans in our history as well as celebrating the contributions of Hispanic Americans who serve our communities and schools every day such as civil rights trail blazers Cesar Chavez and Dolores Clara Fernandez Huerta, who recently had a school constructed and named in her honor, Vice President of Santa Clara University, Eva Blanco Masias, and local community hero, Marisa Rosales Gaska, who has rallied the Silicon Valley community together to rise to the challenge of providing face coverings for healthcare workers both locally and throughout the state in the midst challenges that arose during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, in Santa Clara County, Hispanic/Latinx students make up 38.3-percent of the student population and represent the largest racial/ethnic group among the state's child population; and

WHEREAS, within the County of Santa Clara there are programs to assist Hispanic Americans such as the New Americans Fellowship program - a leadership pipeline for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients living, working, or going to school in Santa Clara County; the East San Jose Prevention Efforts Advance Community Equity (PEACE) Partnership - a community initiative aimed at building a community free of violence and trauma; School Linked Services - a partnership between Santa Clara County and schools to bridge supports and services such as health and wellbeing; and, the Universal Access Pilot (UAP) - a collaboration of FIRST 5, County of Santa Clara agencies, Santa Clara County Office of Education, Alum Rock Unified School District, Franklin McKinley School District, and other nonprofit partners committed to cross-system coordination and integration in service to family navigation that is culturally-responsive and applies a whole child, whole family approach to supports; and

WHEREAS, to support this student population, the SCCOE has fostered strong partnerships in the community, including partnering with Silicon Valley Education Foundation (SVEF) Eastside Alliance to promote and provide training for culturally relevant math instruction leading to increased math scores for Hispanic/Latino children and the aforementioned Universal Access Pilot; and

WHEREAS, other partnerships have been formed such as the Hispanic Education Foundation of Silicon Valley, which provides support to students and families through programs such as Latinos in technology, STEM, parent engagement, and leadership development; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE in its continued effort to honor National Hispanic Heritage Month and to enhance equity and diversity, remains dedicated to providing resources and programming for Spanish speaking communities; offers translation services and training for teachers, schools, and school districts; continues recruitment efforts to attract diverse educators into the teaching profession; promotes multilingual education through our Multilingual Education Services and involvement with the California Association of Bilingual Education (CABE), and continues to support safe schools and resources for undocumented students; and

WHEREAS, in resonance with the 2021 theme of *Esperanza: A Celebration of Hispanic Heritage and Hope*, the Santa Clara County Office of Education recognizes the significant contributions and considerable advances that Hispanic Americans have made and continue to make each and every day in our community, state and the world, as leaders, politicians, educators, and public servants. SCCOE looks forward to the continued partnerships that uplift Hispanic/Latino students and helps prepare them for a bright, innovative future; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE remains committed to serving, inspiring, and promoting student success while improving student equity and access to high quality education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Clara County Board of Education and County Superintendent of Schools proclaim September 15, 2021, as the beginning of National Hispanic Heritage Month.

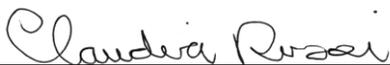
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the County Board of Education at a meeting held on September 1, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: President Rossi, Vice President Ortiz and Trustees Chon, Di Salvo, Kamei, Sreekrishnan, and Mah

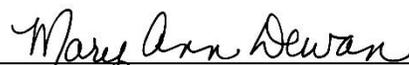
NOES: none

ABSTAIN: none

ABSENT: none



Claudia Rossi, President
Santa Clara County Board of Education



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