

**RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER AS ATTENDANCE AWARENESS MONTH**

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION No. 2248-3**

WHEREAS, the months of September and October are set aside to recognize the vital role attendance plays in student achievement and academic outcomes; and

WHEREAS, chronic absence, defined as missing 10 percent or more of school, is now a required metric under the federal Every Student Succeeds Act and is reported on the California School Dashboard; and

WHEREAS, in Santa Clara County, there are over 275,000 children and youth enrolled with an average of 9 percent of students reported as chronically absent; and

WHEREAS, attendance gaps among groups of students often turn into achievement gaps that undermine student success. Chronic absence exacerbates the opportunity gap that separates lower-performing students from their peers; and

WHEREAS, chronic absenteeism can be reduced significantly when schools, families, and communities collaborate to monitor and promote good attendance and address barriers that keep children from getting to school; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) is committed to improving the academic and social-emotional outcomes of all students and significantly reducing the opportunity gap. Chronic absence has been established as a predictor of academic trouble and dropout rates; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE Safe & Healthy Schools provides Student Attendance Review Board (SARB) early identification, intervention, and mediation for districts throughout Santa Clara County; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE Safe & Healthy Schools department supports attendance awareness throughout the county through program such as Open Doors: Healthy School Climate Webinars, State School Attendance Review Board (SARB) Public Videoconference Meeting, and attendance supervisor training. Additionally, this year, the SCCOE in partnership with the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office, will lead a student film competition providing a platform for students to communicate the importance of attendance;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Clara County Board of Education and the County Superintendent of Schools do hereby adopt this resolution to recognize September as Attendance Awareness Month and supports cross-collaborative measures that help reduce chronic absenteeism giving all children an equitable opportunity to learn, grow and thrive academically, emotionally and socially.

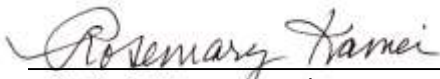
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the County Board of Education at a meeting held on September 4, 2019, by the following vote:

AYES: President Kamei and Trustees Di Salvo, King, Mah, Ortiz and Rossi

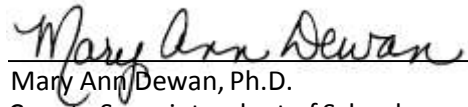
NOES: -none-

ABSTAIN: -none-

ABSENT: Vice President Song



Rosemary Kamei, President
Santa Clara County Board of Education



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