



RESOLUTION

Recognizing Constitution Day and California High School Voter Education Weeks

SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Resolution No. 2229-2

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the United States, a revered and living document, provides important rights to every citizen of the United States, secures “the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity,” and sets the standard of democracy for the world; and

WHEREAS, the United States Constitution, and its amendments, outline the freedoms and the principles of representative government that are as strong today as they were on that momentous occasion in 1787; and

WHEREAS, September 17, 2018, marks the 231th anniversary of the signing of the United States Constitution, which is the supreme law of the land and the document by which the people of this country self-govern; and

WHEREAS, Constitution Day on September 17, 2018, also coincides with the start of California High School Voter Educations Weeks from September 17 – 28, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education is partnering with government agencies and community based organizations to increase civic education and engagement through an initiative called “The Power of Democracy”; and

WHEREAS, Young people can play a critical role in our democracy by helping to choose the people who will lead us and by voicing their opinions on the issues that are important to them; and

WHEREAS, Santa Clara County youth (18 to 24 year olds) make up 11.1% of the county’s electorate and Silicon Valley (Santa Clara and San Mateo counties) the youth eligible voter turnout in 2016 was 42.7%; and

WHEREAS, Silicon Valley youth eligible voter turnout was the lowest for all age groups and 16 and 17 year olds can now pre-register to vote and then automatically become active voters once they turn 18; and

WHEREAS, as part of “The Power of Democracy” the County Office of Education is partnering with Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters to provide voter education, voter registration, and other election materials to all high schools in the region; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE will encourage and the California Student Mock Election, which will take place on October 9, 2018, for the Gubernatorial General Election by working with the California Campaign for the Civic Mission of Schools and the Constitutional Rights Foundation, the Student Mock Election will stir students' interest in voting as they gain firsthand knowledge of how citizens make their voice heard in our democracy; and

WHEREAS, the office has applied for a Silicon Valley Community Foundation grant to focus on increasing voter turnout of older, high-need, system impacted opportunity youth residing in the cities of Gilroy, Milpitas, Morgan Hill, and San Jose as they now represent the largest voter-eligible age group for the 2018 midterms; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Clara County Board of Education and County Superintendent of Schools does hereby adopt this resolution to encourage Santa Clara County Schools to celebrate Constitution Day and participate in California High School Voter Education Weeks.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Santa Clara County Board of Education at a meeting held on September 5, 2018, by the following vote:

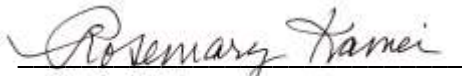
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Santa Clara County Board of Education at a meeting held on September 5, 2018, by the following vote:

AYES: Vice President Song and Trustees, Green, King, Mah and Di Salvo

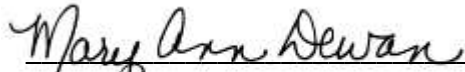
NOES: --none--

ABSTAIN: --none--

ABSENT: President Kamei and Trustee Rossi



Rosemary Kamei, President
Santa Clara County Board of Education



Dr. Mary Ann Dewan
County Superintendent of Schools