

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING LGBTQ+ HISTORY MONTH

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION No. 2448-4**

WHEREAS, October is designated LGBTQ+ History Month, a month-long celebration of the history of the diverse lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus community and the importance of civil rights movements in progressing gay rights; and

WHEREAS, the observance was created by Rodney Wilson, a history teacher at a Missouri high school, in 1994. In 1995, the General Assembly of the National Education Association (NEA) added LGBTQ+ History Month to the list of commemorative months in a resolution; and

WHEREAS, contributing to October being chosen as the month to celebrate LGBTQ+ history is the anniversary of the first march for gay rights in Washington which took place on October 14, 1979, falling on the 10-year anniversary of the Stonewall Riots; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of LGBTQ+ History Month now includes #SpiritDay on October 17, an anti-bullying movement that inspires LGBTQ+ youth to live their truth and authenticity, with people encouraged to wear purple in support; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ History Month provides the opportunity to extensively learn about the history of the LGBTQ+ rights movement, the [Fair Act](#), and building community and providing role models who will best represent and address the issues of the LGBTQ+ community; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) supports LGBTQ+ youth and allies; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE was one of the first county offices to make a commitment to fly the pride flag daily and not just during Pride Month in June; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE has established [resources and supports](#) for youth, educators, and families including training on the Fair Act, Out for Safe Schools, and the use of pronouns as well as a number of resource guides; and

WHEREAS, in October of 2022, the SCCOE partnered with community leaders to establish a first of its kind in the Bay Area, LGBTQ+ Flag Raising and annual Resource Fair; and

WHEREAS, following the event the SCCOE hosted the Queer Silicon Valley History Project traveling exhibit, an LGBTQ+ art display curated by Dr. Ken Yeager; and

WHEREAS, in August 2024, the SCCOE continued the annual tradition of marching as a team in the Silicon Valley Pride Parade; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE received the 2022-23, California Teachers Association LGBTQ+ Safety in Schools Grant & Scholarship Program in Honor of Guy DeRosa, a lifelong advocate for civil, human, and LGBTQ+ rights; and

WHEREAS, the 2024, LGBTQ+ History Month Showcase will take place on October 1, and will honor districts and charter schools in Santa Clara County for their remarkable efforts in promoting LGBTQ+ inclusivity; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE is committed to supporting districts and schools in creating and sustaining inclusive spaces that are welcoming and promote a sense of belonging; and

WHEREAS, the student wellness programs and services that are both sponsored and supported by the SCCOE offer safe and welcoming spaces for LGBTQ+ youth and allies; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE remains committed to equity and inclusion, and offering support to schools and districts regardless of their students' sexual orientation; now

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 October as LGBTQ+ History Month.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the County Board of Education at a meeting held on September 18, 2024, by the following vote:

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

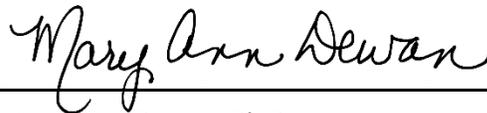
NOES: none

ABSTAIN: none

ABSENT: none



Maimona Afzal Berta, President
Santa Clara County Board of Education



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