

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A SANTA CLARA COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION CALIFORNIA
INDIAN EDUCATION TASK FORCE**

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION No. 2309-3**

WHEREAS, on October 5, 2022, the Santa Clara County Board of Education and County Superintendent of Schools adopted resolution no. 2307-5, a "Resolution Honoring Indigenous People and Tribal Communities" to recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day in October and November as Native American Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) is honored to acknowledge and celebrate local and national American Indians and the significant contributions made to grow the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, over 70% of American Indian and Alaskan Native people now live in urban areas, with California having the largest population in the country; and

WHEREAS, Indigenous People, in particular the Muwekma Ohlone, of the Santa Clara County valley region have had and continue to have distinct, rich cultures binding them to the Earth and all of its inhabitants; and

WHEREAS, the Muwekma Ohlone, Amah Mutsun, Esselen, and Tamien tribes of our region suffered severe injustice and dispossession. The Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) honors and supports the first people of the region as efforts are made to revive their culture, language, and history; and

WHEREAS, on September 23, 2022, Governor Newsom signed AB 1703, the California Indian Education Act, that permits school districts and county offices of education to form California Indian Education Task Forces in partnership with local tribes; and

WHEREAS, AB 1703 describes the activities that the local California Indian Education Task Force may undertake in the areas of curriculum and instruction practices; identifying achievement gaps between American Indian pupils and other pupils; and supporting the adoption of curriculum developed by California Indian Education Task Forces; and

WHEREAS, the formation of a Santa Clara County California Indian Education Task Force would bring educational leaders, school districts, the SCCOE, and the Muwekma Ohlone community together to collaborate and help ensure that all pupils learn about the history, culture, government, and experiences of their American Indian peers and neighbors, and to ensure that American Indian pupils are more engaged and learn more successfully; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Clara County Board of Education and the County Superintendent of Schools do hereby adopt this resolution to raise awareness about the permissions granted by Education Code 13391 for local education agencies to establish California Indian Education Task Forces, affirm our shared desire to establish a countywide task force led by the Santa Clara County Office of Education and to advocate for state funding to support this effort.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the County Board of Education at a meeting held on November 16, 2022, by the following vote:

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


NOES: none

ABSTAIN: none

ABSENT: none



Peter Ortiz, President
Santa Clara County Board of Education



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