



NEWS RELEASE

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Santa Clara County Board of Education resolution commemorates National Women's History Month

SAN JOSE, CA – The Santa Clara County Board of Education formally recognized March as Women's History Month by adopting a resolution during its meeting this evening. In classrooms across the county, students will be participating in a variety of lessons and activities throughout the month to mark the observance.

The Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) "recognizes the significant contributions and considerable advances that women have made, and continue to make in our community, state and the world, in such areas as education, medicine, art, culture, public service, economics and development, politics and human rights," states the [resolution](#), which was adopted under consent action items tonight. This year's theme is "Working to Form a More Perfect Union: Honoring Women in Public Service and Government."

Roughly 80 percent of the SCCOE's staff of 1,652 employees are women, in roles ranging from frontline educators to support staff to top-level administrators.

"As an organization rich with women leaders in all areas of expertise, it is important that we take time to reflect on the women whose work paved the way for us, and to celebrate the accomplishments of the many excellent women educators doing amazing things for students and families here in Santa Clara County every single day," said Dr. Mary Ann Dewan, Deputy Superintendent.

At last week's Santa Clara County National History Day Competition on February 27, the winning Junior Division Historical Paper, authored by 8th grader Marisol Meier of Castilleja School, explored how Harriet Beecher Stowe's writing exposed people to ideas that would eventually precipitate conflicts leading up to the Civil War. Other standout projects exploring women's history included exhibits on journalist Nellie Bly, who famously faked insanity to write an expose about the treatment of the mentally ill; suffragist leader Victoria Woodhull and the women's suffrage movement broadly; and a performance about Ida Laura Pfeiffer, one the first woman explorers to travel "round the world."

“There are 134,000 girls attending our Santa Clara County public schools, and each of them deserves the opportunity to receive an excellent education that will prepare them for the college and career field of their choosing,” said Anna Song, Board President. “My thanks and admiration go out to the countless teachers taking time this month and throughout the year to show our students that women have always been an important part of our collective story and will continue to shape our society as great innovators, artists, elected officials and more.”