

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING NATIONAL ENDOMETRIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION No. 2437-3**

WHEREAS, the month of March is nationally recognized as Endometriosis Awareness Month. The Endometriosis Association began recognizing March as National Endometriosis Awareness Month in 1993; and

WHEREAS, endometriosis is a complex hormonal and immune chronic disease causing multiple symptoms, including pain, which disrupts the lives of an estimated 89 million women and girls worldwide. Per the United States Food and Drug Administration, it is one of the most common gynecological diseases, affecting 11% of American girls and women ages 15-44; and

WHEREAS, there is no known cure for endometriosis and treatments are often problematic. Insufficient knowledge of the disease and stigma causes an average delay of ten years from onset of symptoms to diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, according to the Endometriosis Association, females with endometriosis have been shown to be at greater risk for 12 cancers, seven autoimmune diseases, allergic diseases, and heart disease; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Education's Dataquest system reports there were 31,000 female students in Santa Clara County aged 15-44 in the 2022-23 school year; and

WHEREAS, Dataquest also reports that Santa Clara County girls in grades 4-12 had an average excused absence (which includes student sick days) rate of 61.8% and reported 34.1 days of school missed in the 2022-23 school year; and

WHEREAS, the Endometriosis Association states *dealing with endometriosis as a teenager can be uniquely challenging. There are times when the disease will interfere with almost all areas of your life, including school attendance, your concentration, energy level, social life, physical activities, and self-confidence; now*

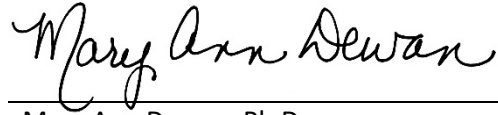
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Clara County Board of Education and County Superintendent of Schools do hereby adopt this resolution recognizing March as National Endometriosis Awareness Month, acknowledging the challenges of the disease may impact student learning, while encouraging the community to learn more.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the County Board of Education at a meeting held on March 20, 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