

**RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUEER (LGBTQ)
PRIDE MONTH**

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION No. 2264-1**

WHEREAS, people express and experience great diversity and it is our shared responsibility to ensure that everyone in our school communities is valued and respected regardless of gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation; and,

WHEREAS, the month of June is set aside to celebrate the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) community, raise awareness and acceptance, and recognize the contribution that the LGBTQ community has made both present day and throughout history; and,

WHEREAS, disparities among youth based on sexual orientation are shocking. LGBTQ youth in California experience higher rates of poor emotional health, substance use and school absences compared with their straight-identified youth; and,

WHEREAS, according to analysis of a 2017 Project Cornerstone survey results, Santa Clara County reported 2,426, or 7% of students who identify as LGBTQ. Of this student group, only 11% report feeling valued by their communities. These young people are reported as three times more likely to attempt suicide. In addition, according to The National Center for Transgender Equality, one in five transgender people in the United States has experienced discrimination when seeking a home, and more than one in ten have been evicted from their homes because of their gender identity. Family rejection and discrimination and violence have contributed to a large number of transgender and other LGBTQ-identified youth who are homeless in the United States – an estimated 20-40% of the more than 1.6 million homeless youth; and,

WHEREAS, there is a call to action for localized efforts that support LGBTQ youth including student and school resources that focus on positive behavioral interventions and support, addresses school climate that rejects bullying, provides tools for student health and wellness, and increases parent engagement; and,

WHEREAS, in partnership with the County of Santa Clara Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Affairs, the Santa Clara County Behavior Health Services, and the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) provides support to districts and stakeholders to support the LGBTQ students and community through services including the Safe & Healthy Schools program and the History-Social Science program; and,

WHEREAS, the Safe & Healthy Schools department works throughout the year to cultivate a positive environment by offering holistic support for all students through the Foster & Homeless Youth Services programs, suicide prevention, student wellness, school climate, anti-bullying, and positive behavior intervention programs; and,

WHEREAS, state law under the FAIR Education Act, Senate Bill 48, requires that California K-12 schools provide Fair, Accurate, Inclusive and Respectful (FAIR) representations of people with disabilities and people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender in our curricula, and the inclusions of LGBTQ history in kindergarten through 12 grade education; and,

WHEREAS, the SCCOE is actively working to create more inclusive policies and practices that support, and uplift LGBTQ youth, encourage students, staff, and community members to utilize the SCCOE LGBTQ website (<http://bit.ly/LGBTQSCCOE>) and its resources. As an Out for Safe Schools collective, the SCCOE will support districts with practices and initiatives focused on safe and supportive learning environments; and,

WHEREAS, the SCCOE is an institute of learning that is committed to serving, inspiring, and promoting student and public school success; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE recognizes LGBTQ community leaders such as former District 4 Santa Clara County Supervisor, Ken Yeager, and current District 4 Santa Clara County Supervisor, Susan Ellenberg, for their commitment to providing supports for the LGBTQ community through advocacy and county partnerships; and,

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County has community centers serving LGBTQ persons of all ages including Youth Space, the Billy DeFrank Center and The New Haven Inn shelter; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Clara County Board of Education and the County Superintendent of Schools proclaim June as LGBTQ Pride Month to inspire equity, create alliances, celebrate diversity, and establish safe environments in our schools and communities throughout the county.

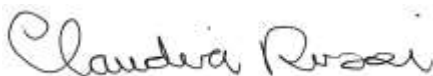
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Santa Clara County Board of Education at a meeting held on June 10, 2020, by the following vote:

AYES: President Rossi, Vice President King, Trustees Di Salvo, Kamei, Mah, Ortiz and Song

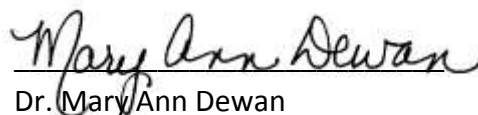
NOES: none

ABSTAIN: none

ABSENT: none



Claudia Rossi, President
Santa Clara County Board of Education



Dr. Mary Ann Dewan
County Superintendent of Schools