

**RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING OCTOBER AS BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH**

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
RESOLUTION No. 2288-2**

**WHEREAS**, National Bullying Prevention Month is observed during the month of October, and its goal is to encourage schools and communities to work together to stop all forms of bullying, cyberbullying, and put an end to hatred and racism by increasing awareness of the prevalence and impact of all forms of bullying; and

**WHEREAS**, one out of every five (20.2%) students report being bullied<sup>1</sup>; 41% of students who reported being bullied at school indicated that they think the bullying would happen again<sup>1</sup>, and one in five (20.9%) 9 to 12 years olds reported being cyberbullied, having cyberbullied others, or observing cyberbullying<sup>2</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, bullying puts all youth at increased risk for depression, suicidal ideation, misuse of drugs and alcohol, experiencing sexual violence, engaging in unsafe sex practices, and can affect academics as well; and

**WHEREAS**, students who experience bullying are at increased risk for depression, anxiety, sleep difficulties, lower academic achievement, and dropping out of school<sup>3</sup>; bullied students indicate that bullying has a negative effect on how they feel about themselves (27%), their relationships with friends and family (19%), their school work (19%), and physical health (14%)<sup>1</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, high school students who self-identify as lesbian, gay, or bisexual (LGB) report having been bullied on school property (32%) and cyberbullied (26.6%) more in the past year than their straight peers (17.1% and 14.1%, respectively); 29% of gay or lesbian youth, 31% of bisexual youth, and 43% of transgender youth have been bullied on school property, compared to 17% of straight youth<sup>4</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, more than half of bullying situations (57%) stop when a peer intervenes on behalf of the student being bullied<sup>1</sup>; and, labeling an incident as bullying can be important because it influences whether students tell an adult, as well as how adults respond to the student's report<sup>5</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, the Santa Clara County Board of Education (SCBOE) supports board policy, BP 5131.2<sup>6</sup>, on anti-bullying to encourage positive behaviors and in creating a safe learning and working environment for all students and employees and to protect all students and employees

from all forms of bullying, harassment, hazing, discrimination, or intimidation of any type for any reason<sup>6</sup>; resources are available for staff and community on the [SCCOE website](#); and BP 5157<sup>7</sup> to advise staff regarding issues relating to transgender, non-binary and gender-expansive students in order to create and maintain a safe learning environment for all students and to ensure that every student has equal access to the SCCOE's educational programs and activities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) remains committed to equity and offering supports to schools and districts regardless of their students' abilities and/or disabilities; in partnership with the Public Health Department of Santa Clara County, the Safe and Healthy Schools Department of the Santa Clara County Office of Education collaborates on the violence and bullying prevention under the Children's Health Improvement Plan, assessing the implementation of bullying prevention efforts and positive behavior interventions and supports (PBIS) throughout the county; the Santa Clara County Office of Education houses a Positive Behavior Intervention Support technical assistance center which encourages schools to participate in data-based decision making that includes the California Healthy Kids Survey, and provides valuable data relating to the perception of student safety and addresses bullying specifically; and

**WHEREAS**, the Santa Clara County Board of Education and the County Superintendent of Schools recognize the month of October 2021 as Santa Clara County Bullying Prevention Month, with the intention that the issue of bullying and its prevention be discussed in Santa Clara County schools and learning environments and to promoting dialogue between educators, parents, and students on their roles in addressing and preventing bullying and also encouraging organizations to share information about their bullying prevention resources; 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 recognize October as Bullying Prevention Month.

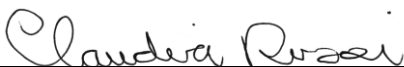
**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the County Board of Education at a meeting held on September 15, 2021, by the following vote:


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

NOES: none

ABSTAIN: none

ABSENT: none

  
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Claudia Rossi, President  
Santa Clara County Board of Education

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

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<sup>1</sup>[National Center for Educational Statistics, 2019](#)

<sup>2</sup>[Patchin & Hinduja, 2020](#)

<sup>3</sup>[Centers for Disease Control, 2019](#)

<sup>4</sup>[Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance 2019](#)

<sup>5</sup>[US Department of Health and Human Services. "The Role of Teachers and Other School Staff in Bullying Prevention ." Accessed Aug. 21, 2019](#)

<sup>6</sup>[SCCOE BP 5131.2](#)

<sup>7</sup>[SCCOE BP 5157](#)