

**RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING OCTOBER AS
LGBTQ+ HISTORY MONTH**

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION No. 2306-5**

WHEREAS, the month of October is designated LGBTQ+ History Month, a month-long celebration of the history of the diverse lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer community and the importance of civil rights movements in progressing gay rights; and

WHEREAS, the observance was created by Rodney Wilson, a history teacher at a Missouri high school, in 1994. In 1995, the General Assembly of the National Education Association added LGBTQ+ History Month to the list of commemorative months in a resolution; and

WHEREAS, contributing to October being chosen as the month to celebrate LGBTQ+ history is the anniversary of the first march for gay rights in Washington which took place on October 14, 1979; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of the history month now includes Ally Week which includes a student spirit day on October 20th. Ally Week encourages students to be allies with LGBTQ members and to stand up to bullying. Allies are encouraged to wear purple on October 20th as a means of showing solidarity with LGBTQ youth in honor of Matthew Shepard who was murdered in a hate crime in October 1998; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ History Month allows the opportunity to extensively learn about the history of the LGBTQ+ movement, the Fair Act, and what factors and measures will be successful in building communities and providing role models who will best represent and address the issues of the LGBTQ+ community; and

WHEREAS, the month-long commemoration is most prominently celebrated in the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, Hungary, Brazil, and the city of Berlin; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) supports LGBTQ+ youth and allies; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE was one of the first county offices to make a commitment to fly the pride flag daily and not just during Pride Month in June; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE has established resources and supports for youth, educators, and families including trainings on the Fair Act, Out for Safe Schools, and the use of pronouns as well as a community resource guide; and

WHEREAS, in 2021-22, the SCCOE partnered with community leaders to establish a first of its kind LGBTQ history of the Bay Area with a traveling display and video; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE is committed to supporting districts and schools in creating and sustaining inclusive spaces that are welcoming and promote a sense of belonging; and

WHEREAS, the student wellness programs and services that are both sponsored and supported by the SCCOE offer safe and welcoming spaces for LGBTQ+ youth; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE remains committed to equity and inclusion, and offering support to schools and districts regardless of their students' sexual orientation; 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 LGBTQ+ History Month.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the County Board of Education at a meeting held on September 21, 2022, by the following vote:

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

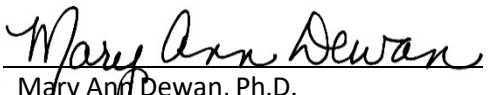
NOES: none

ABSTAIN: none

ABSENT: none



Peter Ortiz, President
Santa Clara County Board of Education



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