



**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING NATIONAL SPECIAL EDUCATION DAY
SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION No. 2272-2**

WHEREAS, December 2nd is recognized as National Special Education Day. This day celebrates the 48th anniversary of the nation's first special education law as the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) was signed on December 2, 1972; and

WHEREAS, the IDEA law makes a free appropriate public education (FAPE) available to eligible children with disabilities throughout the nation and ensures special education and other related services be made available to the students; and

WHEREAS, IDEA governs how states and public agencies provide early interventions, special education, and related services to infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, 2018-19 California Department of Education data states that special education services were provided to 795,047 individuals, newborn through twenty-two years of age; and

WHEREAS, California, at no cost to parents, provides specially designed instruction to meet the needs and settings that allow infants and their families, preschoolers, students, and young adults to be educated with their peers as much as possible; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education's Special Education Department partners with the county's schools to serve students with disabilities from birth to age 22; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education's Special Education Department also provides services to special education students attending institutional schools, community schools and pediatric-skilled nursing facilities; and

WHEREAS, other programs that are available through the Special Education Department at the Santa Clara County Office of Education include: CONNECT which promotes college-aged students' exploration of vocational, educational and recreational options through partnerships with local community groups; the Orthopedic Impairments Program serves students from birth to age 22 who have a physical, health or neuromuscular disorder that interferes with their access to mainstream educational curriculum; and, WorkAbility I which assists students with the transition from school to work, allowing students aged 16-22 to stay in school while developing pre-employment and worksite skills; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education's Special Education Department also has a Augmentative Alternative Communication / Assistive Technology Team that assists families, educators, and professionals in Santa Clara County with building their knowledge, use, and implementation of

Assistive Technology (AT) and Alternative Augmentative Communication (AAC) for students with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education also hosts the Inclusion Collaborative whose mission is to promote a culture that values all children by strengthening, sustaining, and ensuring inclusive practices regardless of a student's ability or disability. The Inclusion Collaborative strives to create full access to a quality inclusive learning and community environment; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education is committed to improving student equity and access to high quality education regardless of a student's ability or disability; to providing quality support to districts, schools, students, and communities; as well as being a premier service organization; 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 December 2nd as National Special Education Day.

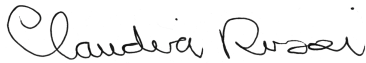
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the County Board of Education at a meeting held on November 18, 2020, by the following vote:

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

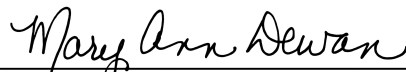
NOES: none

ABSTAIN: none

ABSENT: none



Claudia Rossi, President
Santa Clara County Board of Education



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