

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH**

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**RESOLUTION No: 2438-1**

**WHEREAS**, May is National Foster Care Month, a campaign established to recognize the importance of collaborative relationships among community organizations working to support youth in foster care programs; and

**WHEREAS**, as of September 30, 2022, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services reported that there were over 360,000 children and youth in foster care nationwide; and

**WHEREAS**, in the 2022-2023 academic year, 41,901 students in California were reported by the California Department of Education (CDE) to be in foster care; and

**WHEREAS**, in the 2022-2023 academic year, 476 children and youth from Santa Clara County were reported to be in foster care by the CDE; and

**WHEREAS**, the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) is committed to improving the academic and social-emotional outcomes of foster youth. The SCCOE provides services to children and youth in foster care through Foster & Homeless Youth Services (FHY) by providing assistance and training to local education agencies (LEAs); and

**WHEREAS**, FHY connects school districts and community partners and keeps them abreast of educational law that protects youth who are in foster care or experiencing homelessness; and

**WHEREAS**, FHY manages a Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program funded by the California Department of Education; and

**WHEREAS**, FHY continues to partner with Pivotal, a San José-based nonprofit, providing foster youth education and career support, educational coaching, and post-secondary planning for youth in foster care; and

**WHEREAS**, the Pivotal and SCCOE partnership continues to evolve to meet the needs of youth returning to school and adjusting to learning loss that occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, FHY continues to partner with Child Advocates of Silicon Valley (CASA), to provide educational workshops and support to Court Appointed Special Advocates, including attendance support and literacy development training focusing on children aged 5-12; and

**WHEREAS**, the SCCOE provides Foster Vision, a sustainable and free service to all school districts in Santa Clara County, to facilitate communication of foster youth educational status, placement changes, and improvement of services, through a collection of data from districts and public agencies; and

**WHEREAS**, the SCCOE co-leads the education manager program with the County of Santa Clara Social Services Agency; and

**WHEREAS**, the SCCOE hosts a community of practice for school district foster youth liaisons. In August 2021, a county-wide Steering Committee was established, in partnership with community-based organizations and agencies, to improve educational outcomes for youth who are in foster care, experiencing homelessness, or are justice-engaged; now

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Santa Clara County Board of Education and County Superintendent of Schools do hereby adopt this resolution to recognize May as National Foster Care Month and support foster youth in education in Santa Clara County.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the County Board of Education at a meeting held on April 17, 2024, by the following vote:

AYES: President Berta, Vice President Rocha, and Trustees Chon, Di Salvo, Lari, Mah, and Sreekrishnan

NOES: none

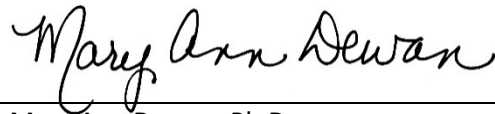
ABSTAIN: none

ABSENT: none



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Maimona Afzal Berta, President  
Santa Clara County Board of Education



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