Resolution

MONTEREY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION NUMBER 15-16-11

Proclaiming

CALIFORNIA SCHOOL BUS SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, the Monterey County Office of Education’s Transportation Department delivers 244 students and Monterey County school districts transport another 6,200 students to and from school in school buses; and

WHEREAS, each bus driver, through their ability to make the drive a safe and secure one, plays an important role in the educational day of students by setting an example of professionalism and positive adult behavior; and

WHEREAS, school bus drivers undergo extensive training in the classroom that cover important procedures including state laws, defensive driving, student management, emergency evacuation drills, and school bus safety lessons, and the Monterey County Office of Education’s Transportation Department plays an important role in promoting and offering several driver training programs and workshops; and

WHEREAS, school bus drivers must constantly stay alert, especially in traffic and bad weather; they must drive defensively in awareness of inattentive or disrespectful drivers; they must exercise particular caution when children are getting on or off the bus; they must maintain order on their bus and enforce schools’ safety and student conduct standards; and they must accommodate the special needs of students; and

WHEREAS, in May of 2015, MCOE Bus Driver Greg Perez, who logged over 780,000 accident-free miles, was the recipient of the California Highway Patrol School Bus Driver of the Year award, an award given annually to a school bus driver who has shown outstanding performance and exceeds expectations; and

WHEREAS, the award winning Transportation Department of the Monterey County Office of Education employs over 30 bus drivers along with 5 support staff members, maintains 50 buses that transport special needs students over 1.5 million miles annually, and safely delivers them to their schools and homes:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Monterey County Board of Education does hereby adopt Resolution Number 15-16-11 to celebrate the month of October as CALIFORNIA SCHOOL BUS SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH and to recognize MCOE’s Transportation Department and all drivers for their continued and excellent service to the staff and students of Monterey County, and to educate and encourage the general public to exercise caution and respect when driving in the area of a school and near a school bus.

Passed and Adopted on the Sixteenth Day of September 2015

Mary Claypool, President

Ron Panziera, Vice President

Francisco Javier Estrada, Member

Sergio Alejo, Member

Harvey Kuffner, Member

John McPherson, Member

Judy Pennycook, Member

Dr. Nafcy Kobowski, Monterey County Superintendent of Schools