

Resolution

MONTEREY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION NUMBER 15-16-12

Proclaiming

NATIONAL BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH

WHEREAS, the Monterey County Board of Education supports the right of students and staff to attend schools that are safe and free from violence, harassment, all forms of bullying and discrimination and encourages our community to work together to stop bullying and cyberbullying by increasing awareness of the prevalence and impact of bullying; and

WHEREAS, October is **National Bullying Prevention Month** where we observe the need for development, implementation, and monitoring of policies and programs that address all forms of bullying including physical, verbal, covert and cyberbullying, and encourage our schools and communities to educate students, parents and others about their role in bullying prevention; and

WHEREAS, various researchers have concluded that bullying is the most common form of violence affecting children and has devastating effects such as school avoidance, loss of self-esteem, increased anxiety and depression; and

WHEREAS, it is essential to achieving the mission of public education that students are provided a safe and healthy school environment that ensures both the physical and emotional safety of students and staff and creates the conditions necessary to foster academic achievement; and

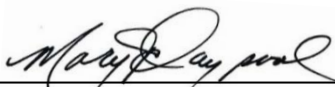
WHEREAS, our county office of education and our school districts have a responsibility to ensure a safe school environment that is free of intimidation and harassment and to create safe school communities by implementing training and ongoing strategies and programs that address all forms of bullying; and

WHEREAS, cyberbullying is on the rise due to the increased use of technology and includes harassment, impersonation, denigration, and exclusion, and can have a harmful impact on the school environment; and

WHEREAS, the most effective approach to creating safe school environments requires a comprehensive, coordinated effort where districts, schools and communities accept responsibility for their critical roles and collaborate to establish a positive environment for teaching and learning:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Monterey County Board of Education does hereby adopt Resolution Number 15-16-12 in support of **National Bullying Prevention Month** and encourages local schools and community stakeholders to develop, implement, and monitor policies and programs that foster and support a positive, respectful school climate free from harassment, bullying, discrimination, and violence.

**Passed and Adopted
on the
Sixteenth Day of September 2015**



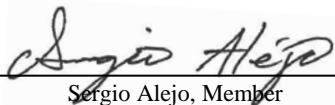
Mary Claypool, President



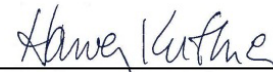
Ron Panziera, Vice President



Francisco Javier Estrada, Member



Sergio Alejo, Member



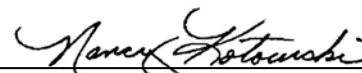
Harvey Kuffner, Member



John McPherson, Member



Judy Pennycook, Member



Dr. Nancy Kotowski, Monterey County Superintendent of Schools