

Resolution

MONTEREY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION NUMBER 19-20-20

Recognizing

National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month and National Human Trafficking Awareness Day

WHEREAS, the month of January is designated **National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month**, with **National Human Trafficking Awareness Day** observed on January 11; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking, also known as modern slavery, is a global, multi-billion-dollar crime and extreme human rights abuse that robs individuals of their freedom and **National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month and National Human Trafficking Awareness Day** brings awareness to this world-wide crisis; and

WHEREAS, slavery was officially abolished in the United States by the Thirteenth Amendment in 1865 however, sadly human trafficking is growing at an alarming rate with California being one of the worst child sex trafficking areas because of its large immigrant population and Monterey County being highly vulnerable with its trucking and agricultural industries and gang-infused communities; and

WHEREAS, affecting all populations and all economic classes, **Human Trafficking** can take on many forms including sex trafficking, forced labor, involuntary servitude, forced marriage, and debt bondage and is a crime in which force, fraud or coercion is used to compel a person to perform labor, services or commercial sex; and

WHEREAS, children forced into human trafficking and various forms of exploitation endure complex trauma that negatively affects their development, physical health, and academic engagement; causing chronic absenteeism, low academic performance, and school dropout; and


WHEREAS, the Monterey County Office of Education serves many children connected to foster care and the juvenile justice system who are at a higher risk of being exploited and the Monterey County Board of Education recognizes the need for outreach and training efforts to raise awareness and help eliminate human trafficking; and


WHEREAS, the Blue Campaign, created by the Department of Homeland Security in 2010, serves as a unified voice to combat human trafficking and strives to bring attention to prevention efforts and raise public awareness; and

WHEREAS, the Monterey County Board of Education recognized that an important part of ending human trafficking is being able to recognize it and bring this crime to the forefront and therefore encourages school districts and schools to provide identification and prevention education programs within their schools and communities and participate in the Blue Campaign:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Monterey County Board of Education does hereby adopt Resolution Number 19-20-20 recognizing January 11 as **National Human Trafficking Awareness Day** and the month of January as **National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month** in support of the organizations and advocates that are creating prevention programs and awareness opportunities to educate students and families throughout Monterey County.

**Passed and Adopted on the
Thirteenth Day of November 2019**


Janet Wohlgemuth, President


Ronald Panziera, Vice President



Harvey Kuffner, Member

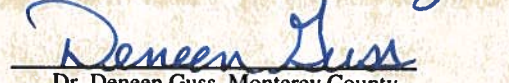

John McPherson, Member




Judy Pennycook, Member


Mary Claypool, Member


Lupe Sánchez, Member


Dr. Deneen Guss, Monterey County
Superintendent of School