

Resolution

MONTEREY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION NUMBER 20-21-16

Recognizing

NATIONAL BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH

WHEREAS, October is **National Bullying Prevention Month** and is an opportunity to raise awareness on the emotional impacts and negative effects bullying has on students, and to encourage schools, communities and organizations to work together to stop bullying and cyberbullying and put an end to hatred and racism; and

WHEREAS, it's important to talk about the dangers of bullying and the trauma it brings to its victims and **National Bullying Prevention Month** helps to raise awareness on the many forms of bullying that includes verbal, physical, relational, and cyberbullying, and provides an opportunity to communicate that bullying will not be tolerated in our community; and

WHEREAS, with heightened anxiety and mental health concerns caused by the coronavirus crisis and the implementation of distance learning and increased use of digital platforms, bullying and cyberbullying is poised to rise as kids are bored and lack structure and parents are stressed and distracted; and

WHEREAS, research shows that bullying often leaves lasting negative effects on those who deal with it, and can include depression, a decline in grades, school avoidance, changes in eating habits and sleeping patterns, increased risk of suicidal thoughts, poor general health, self-harm, substance abuse, and difficulty establishing trusting, reciprocal friendships and relationships; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the harmful effects of bullying on student well-being and student learning, the Monterey County Board of Education encourages school districts and schools to implement proactive approaches to bullying prevention and safe environments to protect students from physical and emotional harm so that every child can succeed socially, emotionally, and academically; and

WHEREAS, providing a safe and healthy school environment is essential to achieving the mission of public education and observing **National Bullying Prevention Month** supports the need for development, implementation, and monitoring of policies and programs that address all forms of bullying to ensure a culture is created that fosters student well-being and academic achievement for all:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Monterey County Board of Education does hereby adopt Resolution Number 20-21-16 in support of **National Bullying Prevention Month** and encourages local schools and community stakeholders to develop, implement, and support policies and programs that foster a positive and respectful school climate free from bullying, harassment, discrimination, and violence.

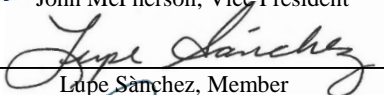
**Passed and Adopted on the
Twenty-Third Day of September 2020**



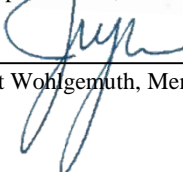
Ron Panziera, President



John McPherson, Vice President



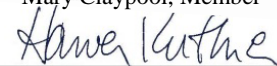
Lupe Sanchez, Member



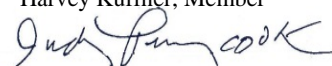
Janet Wohlgemuth, Member



Mary Claypool, Member



Harvey Kuffner, Member



Judy Pennycook, Member



Dr. Deneen Guss, Monterey County
Superintendent of Schools