

Resolution

MONTEREY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION NUMBER 20-21-40

Recognizing

Child Abuse Prevention Month

WHEREAS, the Monterey County Board of Education recognizes **Child Abuse Prevention Month** during the month of April to raise awareness about the dangers of child abuse and the steps that can be taken to prevent it; and

WHEREAS, it is a community responsibility to ensure our children become healthy and productive adults and **Child Abuse Prevention Month** promotes the importance of positive parenting and keeping our kids safe; and

WHEREAS, child abuse includes general and severe neglect and physical, sexual, and emotional abuse, which all can increase the likelihood of long-term physical and mental health problems, alcohol and substance abuse, interrupted or incomplete education, continued family violence, and criminal behavior; and

WHEREAS, spikes in child abuse occurs when people find themselves in stressful situations such as job loss, financial troubles and social isolation, and with the lockdowns and closure of schools due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it has left some children without the safe space of a school and under the watchful eyes of mandated reporters; and

WHEREAS, it is urgent to increase efforts to protect children during these unprecedented times and take appropriate actions to stop abuse and provide support, community resources, and social connections to those in need; and

WHEREAS, the Monterey County Office of Education will partner with the Monterey County Department of Social Services, Community Human Services, Rape Crisis Center, and Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) to host an Annual Human Trafficking Symposium on March 26, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Monterey County Office of Education and partnering agencies have kept well informed of the increased potential for child abuse during the COVID-19 pandemic, and are continually forming strategies to raise prevention awareness and provide professional development within our school districts and our communities; and

WHEREAS, exposure to a traumatic event can affect learning and in response the Monterey County Office of Education will host a Trauma-Informed Practices workshop at a Rev-Up Conference on how trauma impacts students and what is being done in classrooms to create trauma sensitive learning environments; and

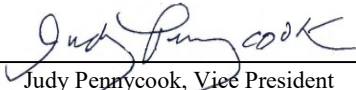
WHEREAS, the Monterey County Board of Education desires to bring attention to **Child Abuse Prevention Month** and encourages organizations, schools, and the public to learn the signs of child abuse, how to prevent it, and to coordinate child abuse and neglect prevention and awareness efforts and activities during the month of April:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Monterey County Board of Education does hereby adopt Resolution Number 20-21-40 to recognize the month of April as **Child Abuse Prevention Month** to highlight the importance of families, schools, and communities to work together to ensure children are safe and protected at all times.

**Passed and Adopted
on the Seventeenth Day of March, 2021**



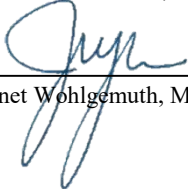
Ron Panziera, President



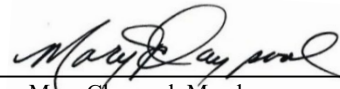
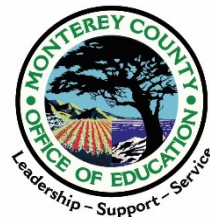
Judy Pennycook, Vice President



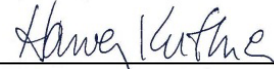
John McPherson, Member



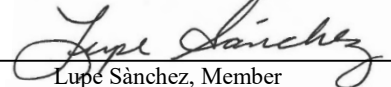
Janet Wohlgemuth, Member



Mary Claypool, Member



Harvey Kuffner, Member



Lupe Sanchez, Member



Dr. Deneen Guss, Monterey County Superintendent of Schools