WHEREAS, honoring teachers who serve in this noble profession and have shown extreme courage and compassion over this past year, California’s Day of the Teacher recognizes educators as a fundamental part of a thriving community, inspiring and motivating students to pursue their dreams, become lifelong learners, and succeed in future endeavors; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 theme for California’s Day of the Teacher is Cultivating Minds and Healing Hearts; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to profoundly impact our education system and California’s Day of the Teacher helps to recognize teachers who are being challenged in ways they could have never imagined, have learned to navigate new instructional platforms, deliver engaging lessons to remote students, cope with the disruptions and heartache the pandemic has brought to many, and create new ways to deliver lessons and meet the unique needs of all students; and

WHEREAS, with courage, collaboration and commitment, Monterey County teachers are performing critical work through ever-changing and innovative ways with distance learning lessons and activities, new hybrid models that meets the educational and social-emotional needs of students, and transforming school environments and climates in positive and rewarding ways; and

WHEREAS, California’s Day of the Teacher pays tribute to the tireless efforts of outstanding educators who are navigating constantly shifting landscapes, creating high-quality educational opportunities, maintaining students’ attention through devices, adopting new technology and tools, addressing inequities, accommodating various home environments and access to resources, and creating a safe and supportive learning environment; and

WHEREAS, the Monterey County Board of Education is extremely proud of the exemplary teachers who serve our students throughout Monterey County providing inspiration and guidance, and reaching out to parents, families, and their communities to strengthen the learning experience and provide support, direction and encouragement; and

WHEREAS, the success of nearly 78,000 students in Monterey County depends on the skills, knowledge, positive influence, and encouragement of dedicated teachers who work collaboratively with school board members, superintendents, administration, colleagues, parents, families and others in support of quality education for all youth; and

WHEREAS, the Monterey County Board of Education urges school administrators, parents, students and the community to show their support and gratitude to Monterey County teachers who work to motivate, inspire and mold young minds:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Monterey County Board of Education does hereby adopt Resolution Number 20-21-56 to recognize California’s Day of the Teacher on May 12, 2021 and honor the numerous contributions and nurturing guidance our local teachers provide to students.

Passed and Adopted on the Fourteenth Day of April, 2021

Ron Panziera, President

Judy Pennycook, Vice President

John McPherson, Member

Janet Wahlgenmuth, Member

Mary Claypool, Member

Harvey Kuffner, Member

Lupe Sánchez, Member

Dr. Deneen Guss, Monterey County Superintendent of Schools