



RESOLUTION #20-24
IN SUPPORT OF REPEALING CALIFORNIA PROPOSITION 209 PROHIBITING
AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

WHEREAS, the Santa Cruz County Office of Education is committed to providing equal access and opportunities for all students and staff; and

WHEREAS, root causes of the uneven prosperity within U.S. society include the theft of the land and suppression of the culture of Indigenous peoples, the enslavement of thousands of families from Africa, the legal and extra-legal suppression of Black political power post-slavery, and the subjugation and exploitation of immigrants from around the world; and

WHEREAS, inequality of access to opportunity and prosperity due to race and ethnicity continues in the present and is maintained through social, political, business, and governmental institutions at all levels of society; and

WHEREAS, institutional racism is reinforced through ideologies of white supremacy and American exceptionalism, scapegoating of immigrants, the mythology of “color-blind” laws, and abusive law enforcement practices; and

WHEREAS, the impacts and mechanisms of institutional racism and white privilege are hidden and obscured through falsehoods, gaps, and omissions in recognizing the roles and histories of Indigenous peoples, enslaved people and their descendants, and immigrants, as members of U.S. society; and

WHEREAS, the accumulated injustice of racism, segregation, and scapegoating is evident in widespread human suffering caused by disparities of access to healthcare, housing, jobs, education, and fair treatment under the law; and

WHEREAS, civil rights legislation and education alone have not obliterated racism or racist policies or practices of American institutions; and

WHEREAS, fulfilling the promise of the American Revolution, and meeting the aspirations of all members of U.S. society, will require civic, business, and governmental institutions to take their responsibility for dismantling racist structures and correcting past injustices; and

WHEREAS, a nation committed to becoming a just society must address and seek to correct current disparities and inequities in a spirit of restorative justice and historical restitution; and

WHEREAS, the disparities and inequities of life due to racism are so large and so severe in their impacts that correcting them cannot passively rely on “progress”, generational change, or economic trends;

WHEREAS, one means available to civic, business, and governmental institutions for addressing historical and current institutional racism is the use of affirmative action in hiring, education, leadership and role models, business practices, cultural inclusion, and media; and

WHEREAS, in California, affirmative action by governmental institutions, including education, has been prohibited since passage by the voters of Proposition 209 in 1996; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Constitutional Amendment 5 has been brought forth to repeal Proposition 209, subject to passage by the voters in the November 2020 elections;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education hereby endorses the repeal of the Proposition 209 ban on affirmative action, and urges all California voters to support and vote for passage of Assembly Constitutional Amendment 5 when it appears on the November 2020 ballot.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Board of the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this 16th day of July 2020, by the following vote:

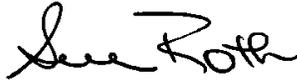
AYES: Barr, Filicetti, Nichols, Roth, Sales, Sanchez, Van Allen

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Resolution #20-24 In Support of Repealing CA Proposition 209 Prohibiting Affirmative Action
Santa Cruz County Board of Education
July 16, 2020



Board President
Santa Cruz County Board of Education



Faris M. Sabbah, Secretary
Santa Cruz County Superintendent of Schools