



Santa Cruz County Board of Education • 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 • Tel (831) 466-5900 •
www.santacruzcoe.org

Ms. Jane Royer Barr • Ms. Rose Filicetti • Ms. Sandra Nichols • Ms. Sue Roth • Mr. Dana Sales
Mr. Abel Sanchez • Mr. Bruce Van Allen

RESOLUTION #20-19
IN SUPPORT OF EQUITY AND ANTI-RACISM IN SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, throughout our nation's history, institutional and structural racism and injustice have led to deepening racial disparities across all sectors of society and have had lasting negative consequences for our communities, cities, and nation; and

WHEREAS, Americans' lives are often limited and injured in differing ways shaped by their race, gender, wealth, and political power; and

WHEREAS, understanding conditions for African-Americans today requires acknowledging the history and continuing legacy of slavery and colonialism, and

WHEREAS, throughout our nation's history, institutional racism has permeated government, education, business, civic, and cultural life, continuing to the present in many forms; and

WHEREAS, institutional and structural racism have led to deepening racial disparities across all sectors of society, damaging many lives, with lasting negative consequences for our communities, cities, and nation; and

WHEREAS, the maintenance of systemic racism has depended on the use of violence to uphold its dominance over society, in such forms as lynchings, mob attacks on African-American communities, and police brutality; and

WHEREAS, the education provided to most young Americans of all races omits a significant amount of information about the nature, history, and solutions to American racism; and

WHEREAS, the education provided to most young Americans of all races omits a significant amount of information about the contributions of African-Americans to creating and shaping the intellectual, artistic, scientific, industrial, and cultural character of our nation; and

WHEREAS, recent events have brought heightened awareness across American society of the need for substantial change in our institutions, including in education, and the need to make a commitment to deep and lasting dismantling of the structures of racism, injustice, and inequality; and

WHEREAS, our public schools can be facilitators of the limitless growth potential of all people, with a charge to instill in our youth a belief that every person deserves to live with dignity, be valued for their inherent humanity, and be treated ethically; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education supports Black Lives Matter and its allies in the movement for freedom, justice and equality; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education understands and takes responsibility for its role in addressing the concerns cited herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education values the diversity that exists among our students, staff, families, and community members;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education is committed to educational policies and practices that promote the full recognition of African-American history, contributions to society, and struggles for freedom and justice; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education is committed to educational policies and practices that help repair the institutions damaged by racism; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education is committed to promoting equity in our schools and communities by embracing courageous conversations about race so that we can collectively transform our schools and communities into welcoming places of acceptance, safety, accountability, equitable opportunity, and a sense of belonging; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education supports efforts by the County Office of Education and local school districts to utilize restorative justice practices, implicit bias training, ethnic studies course offerings, and resources that foster dialogue around the guiding principles of Black Lives Matter; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education supports educational curricula appropriate at all levels that fills the gaps in education about African-Americans, as well as about all of the Indigenous and immigrant communities that make up our nation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education calls upon state and federal governments to assure that funding is securely available to allow school districts and county offices of education to fulfill the targeted goals of this resolution without sacrificing other educational goals and programs.

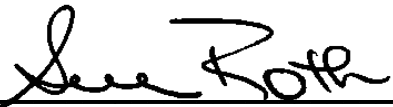
PASSED and ADOPTED by the Board of Education of Santa Cruz County on this **18th day of June, 2020** by the following vote:

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

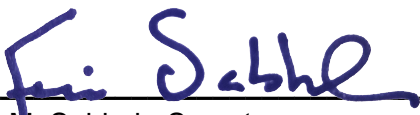
NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.



Board President
Santa Cruz County Board of Education



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