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Resolution #19-14
IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

WHEREAS, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States and the second leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 10 to 34;

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), one person dies by suicide every 11.7 minutes, resulting in nearly 45,000 deaths each year in the United States;

WHEREAS, suicide is the only leading cause of death in the United States that has increased every year for the past decade;

WHEREAS, it is estimated that there are over 1,300,000 suicide attempts each year;

WHEREAS, suicide is preventable, as 9 out of 10 suicide attempt survivors do not go on to die by suicide;

WHEREAS, the stigma associated with mental health conditions and suicidality works against suicide prevention by discouraging persons at risk for suicide from seeking life-saving help and further traumatizes survivors of suicide loss and people with lived experience of suicide; and

WHEREAS, September is recognized as “National Suicide Prevention Month” in the United States which overlaps with World Suicide Prevention Day, September 10th, recognized internationally and supported by the World Health Organization:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Cruz County Office of Education is committed to

1. recognizing suicide as a preventable national, State and local public health problem;
2. supporting the declaration that suicide prevention should be a priority;
3. supporting the designation of September as "National Suicide Prevention Month";
4. developing and implementing strategies to increase access to quality mental health, substance abuse, and suicide prevention services.

PASSED and ADOPTED by the Santa Cruz County Board of Education on this **19th day of September 2019** by the following vote:

AYES: BARR, FILICETTI, NICHOLS, SANCHEZ, VAN ALLEN, SALES

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: ROTH

ABSENT: NONE



Dana M. Sales, President
Santa Cruz County Board of Education



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