



RESOLUTION #22-21

**RECOGNIZING LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUEER (LGBTQ+)
PRIDE MONTH**

WHEREAS, June is a time to celebrate our dynamic LGBTQ+ community, raise awareness of quality services, and foster a dialogue to promote a healthy, safe, and prosperous school climate and communities for all; and

WHEREAS, more than 50 years have passed since the June, 1969, Stonewall riots in New York City, and the birth of an activist movement; and

WHEREAS, June is recognized and celebrated as LGBTQ+ pride month throughout the country and worldwide;

WHEREAS, California state law now addresses discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying towards LGBTQ+ youth; and

WHEREAS, there have been numerous studies indicating the inequities experienced by the LGBTQ+ community, including poverty, homelessness, school harassment, physical assault, domestic violence, hate crimes, mental health issues, and substance abuse concerns; and

WHEREAS, bullying in schools is a serious matter that impacts student health and safety, and the Santa Cruz County Office of Education communicates via our website a model of safe and inclusive schools, for all students and especially for LGBTQ+ students, articulating our vision as “when students feel safe, supported and included in school, their learning increases, their engagement increases and more students graduate from high school who are college and career ready”; and

WHEREAS, the COE has an LGBTQ+ Task Force composed of representatives from all school districts, charter schools and independent schools in Santa Cruz County. The task force meets quarterly to identify the ongoing needs of our LGBTQ+ students; and

WHEREAS, recent events have raised awareness of LGBTQ+ issues including the October 2021 Kickoff of Santa Cruz COE LGBTQ+ History, and on May 2, 2022, a Rainbow Flag Raising and Harvey Milk Day Celebration, and on October 4, 2021, the Equity Event: Focus on

Resolution #22-21 Recognizing Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ+) Pride Month
Santa Cruz County Board of Education
June 23, 2022

LGBTQ+ Students and Families at which speakers shared their vision and successes in schools across Santa Cruz County.

WHEREAS, the COE website, santacruzcoe.org, on a page entitled “Supporting the Safety of LGBTQ+ Students and Families” lists supportive resources for LGBTQ+ students, their teachers and principals, their families and our community; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education and County Superintendent proclaim June as LGBTQ+ Month to inspire equity, create alliances, celebrate diversity, and establish safe environments in our schools and communities throughout the county.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Santa Cruz County Board of Education on this 23rd day of June, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: **Filicetti, Nichols, Roth, Sanchez, Van Allen**

NAYS:

ABSENT: **Acosta, Alto**

ABSTAIN:



Abel Sanchez, Board President
Santa Cruz County Board of Education
Schools



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