



RESOLUTION #23-35

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING UNITED AGAINST HATE WEEK

WHEREAS, hate has no place in society, least of all on our school campuses; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Cruz County Board of Education rejects hatred, racism, prejudice, violence, and bullying in all forms; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Cruz County Board of Education is committed to ensuring our schools are safe and welcoming spaces for learners of all identities; and

WHEREAS, Sunday, November 12th, through Saturday, November 18th, is recognized annually as United Against Hate Week, an opportunity to come together and reflect; and

WHEREAS, United Against Hate Week emerged from the response of Berkeley and other East Bay civic leaders to a series of extremist demonstrations in 2017; and

WHEREAS, this week has since grown to include more than 200 communities and is continuing to expand; and

WHEREAS, we encourage recognition of United Against Hate Week at all schools within our community; and

WHEREAS, this week calls for local civic action by people in every community to stop the hate and implicit biases that continue to impact too many members of our community; and

WHEREAS, this week is an important opportunity to learn about ongoing efforts at schools and across our community and to join in solidarity around a clear message: Hate has no place here; and

WHEREAS, our school districts and County Office of Education have created a toolkit with activity ideas for elementary and secondary students, sample social media posts, and information about local and national events; and

WHEREAS, sadly, acts of hatred appear to be on the rise; and

WHEREAS, California saw a staggering uptick in hate crimes from 2020 to 2021, and Santa Cruz County was no different; and

WHEREAS, data compiled by the California Department of Justice shows hate-related offenses more than doubled in our county, from 16 in 2020 to 43 in 2021; and

WHEREAS, the misguided narratives propping up hatred and intolerance that continue to be present in our society represent a sign of the work yet to be done;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Santa Cruz County Board of Education and Santa Cruz County Office of Education are firmly committed to building our shared understanding of where inequities persist; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Santa Cruz County Board of Education and Santa Cruz County Office of Education recognize Sunday, November 12th, through Saturday, November 18th, as United Against Hate Week.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Santa Cruz County Board of Education, County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this 19th day of October 2023, by the following vote:

AYES: Acosta, Alto, Alvarez, Estrada, Nichols, Roth, Sanchez, Van Allen

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:



Bruce Van Allen, Board President
Santa Cruz County Board of Education



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