

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

Mr. Ed Acosta • Ms. Alyssa Alto • Mr. Edward Estrada • Ms. Sandra Nichols

Ms. Sue Roth • Mr. Abel Sanchez • Mr. Bruce Van Allen

Student Trustee: Mr. Oscar Alvarez-Delgado

## RESOLUTION #24-08 RECOGNIZING APRIL AS BILINGUAL/MULTILINGUAL ADVOCACY MONTH

WHEREAS, 42% of Santa Cruz County's students, TK-12th grade, are multilingual learners: students who are developing proficiency in two or more languages, including students who are learning English as an additional language in school (English Learners), students who entered fluent in English with an additional home language (Initially Fluent English Proficient-IFEP), and students who have become fluent in English in addition to their home language (Reclassified English Proficient: RFEP), representing over 16,500 students;

WHEREAS, these students represent an asset to our community of multilingual citizens;

**WHEREAS,** "National Bilingual/Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month" highlights a commitment to ensure educational equity and access for these learners to thrive academically and become productive bi-literate/multiliterate global citizens;

**NOW, BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED**, that the Santa Cruz County Office of Education and the Santa Cruz County Board of Education recognize and celebrate April 2024 as "National Bilingual/Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month" and urge all educators to advocate on behalf of multilingual learners and commends the work of Santa Cruz County Family Engagement Collaborative.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Santa Cruz County Board of Education, County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this 21st day of March 2024, by the following vote:

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

**NAYS:** 

**ABSENT:** Alto

**ABSTAIN:** 

Sue Roth, Board President

Santa Cruz County Board of Education

Dr. Faris M. Sabbah, Secretary

Santa Cruz County Superintendent of Schools