



Santa Cruz County Board of Education • 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 • Tel (831) 466-5900 • www.santacruzcoe.org
Mr. Ed Acosta • Mr. Edward Estrada • Mr. Greg Larson • Ms. Sue Roth
Mr. Abel Sanchez • Mr. Bruce Van Allen • Ms. Rachel Williams

Student Trustee: Natalie Hofkins and Ruben Marcus

RESOLUTION #25-06
RECOGNIZING APRIL AS NATIONAL BILINGUAL/MULTILINGUAL LEARNER ADVOCACY
MONTH

WHEREAS, 40% 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 15,300 students; and

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

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; and

WHEREAS, recent changes in federal policy, funding, and staffing are creating new concerns and uncertainties for multilingual learners and their families;

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 2025 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 20th day of March 2025, by the following vote:

AYES: Estrada, Larson, Roth, Van Allen, Williams
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Acosta, Sanchez

Edward Estrada, Board Vice-President
Santa Cruz County Board of Education

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