

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 • Ms. Sandra Nichols • Ms. Sue Roth Mr. Abel Sanchez • Mr. Bruce Van Allen • Ms. Rachel Williams

Student Trustees: Natalie Hofkins & Ruben Marcus

## **RESOLUTION #24-43 RECOGNIZING NATIONAL SPECIAL EDUCATION DAY**

**WHEREAS,** December 2nd is recognized as National Special Education Day, celebrating the anniversary of the signing of the nation's first special education law as the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA), on December 2, 1972; and

**WHEREAS,** IDEA makes a free appropriate public education (FAPE) available to eligible children with disabilities throughout the nation and ensures special education and other related services be made available to the students; and

**WHEREAS**, IDEA governs how states and public agencies provide early interventions, special education, and related services to infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, as of the 2018-19 school year, special education services were provided to 795,047 individuals in California, including newborns through those twenty-two years of age, according to the California Department of Education; and

**WHEREAS**, California, at no cost to parents, provides specially designed instruction to meet the needs and settings that allow infants and their families, preschoolers, students, and young adults to be educated with their peers; and

**WHEREAS**, the Santa Cruz County Office of Education's Special Education Department partners with the County's schools to serve students with disabilities from birth to age 22; and

**WHEREAS**, the Santa Cruz County Office of Education's Special Education Department also provides services to special education students attending institutional schools, as well as community schools; and

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**WHEREAS**, the Santa Cruz County Board of Education and Office of Education are committed to improving student equity and access to high quality education regardless of a student's ability or disability; to providing quality support to districts, schools, students, and communities; as well as being a premier service organization;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education and the County Superintendent of Schools do hereby adopt this resolution to recognize December 2nd as National Special Education Day.

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

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

Sue Roth, Board President Santa Cruz County Board of Education

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