

Resolution No. 2018/2019 - 11

Resolution in Support of Recognition of October as National Dyslexia Awareness Month

WHEREAS, Santa Barbara Unified School District recognizes that our children are our most valuable resource, we must provide opportunities to learn and grow;

WHEREAS, the International Dyslexia Association defines dyslexia as a language based learning disability inheritable and highly prevalent affecting as many as 15-20% of the population as a whole;

WHEREAS, dyslexia, meaning “difficulty with words,” constitutes one of the several distinct learning disabilities and is characterized by challenges in processing language when decoding oral and written words;

WHEREAS, dyslexia deeply affects student’s ability to read, write, spell and comprehend and may also affect students emotionally and their overall well-being, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development states that poor literacy is a national health problem because of the ramifications that can last a lifetime;

WHEREAS, students with dyslexia, especially those who are not identified and are reading below grade level at the end of third grade, often experience difficulties with depression, anxiety, and poor self-image and rarely catch up to their peers, and as a result, underperform in school and are at a greater risk for failure and dropping out before completing high school;

WHEREAS, with proper identification, appropriate instruction, accommodation, access to assistive technologies, support from families, teachers and friends, individuals with dyslexia can excel in school and employment;

WHEREAS, the District works to inform and empower families, educators and businesses with the most current research-based practices to promote meaningful literacy development with the goal of preparing individuals for a hopeful and productive future;

WHEREAS, each student who struggles to learn is unique and deserves every chance to fulfill his or her potential for a happy and productive life;

WHEREAS, in an effort to assist parents, educators and individuals, the International Dyslexia Association has designated October as Dyslexia Awareness Month.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Barbara Board of Education does hereby proclaim October 2018, Dyslexia Awareness Month in the Santa Barbara Unified School District and encourages staff members, families, and the community to collaborate to raise awareness and understanding in so much as to identify, treat and prevent problems associated with dyslexia in order to ensure the success for every student with dyslexia.

The foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Board of Education of the Santa Barbara Unified School District on September 25, 2018, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

President, Board of Education
Santa Barbara Unified School District

ATTEST:

Clerk, Board of Education
Santa Barbara Unified School District