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Resolution No. 2023/24-05  
Date: August 23, 2023

## Resolution Recognizing September 2023 as Suicide Prevention Awareness Month

**WHEREAS**, suicide is a significant public health concern affecting individuals of all ages, including students, families, and communities within the state of California and is a leading cause of death among youth that impacts students, family, and the community. Research shows that the community in which youth reside is a supportive factor in suicide prevention; and

**WHEREAS**, the month of September 2023 is National Suicide Prevention Month when millions of people around the world join their voices to share a message of hope and healing and resiliency; and

**WHEREAS**, Striving for Zero, California's Strategic Plan for Suicide Prevention urges all Californians to play a role in suicide prevention and promoting health and wellness and the state of California recognition of the importance of mental health awareness and education within the school setting, as outlined in the California Education Code sections 215; and

**WHEREAS**, it is essential that we educate students about suicide and mental health, and the ways they affect all people in the community; and

**WHEREAS**, in alignment with Suicide Prevention Board Policy 5141.52, Santa Rosa City Schools seeks collaboration with school health professionals, school counselors, school psychologists, school social workers, nurses, administrators, teachers, other staff, parents/guardians, students, local health agencies, mental health professionals, and community organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, as part of a comprehensive health education plan, Santa Rosa City Schools suicide prevention practices involve communication that promotes resiliency, encourages help-seeking behaviors, and develops action and resources that help prevent suicide; and

**WHEREAS**, as part of SRCS' Multi-Tiered Systems of Support, SRCS has systemically recognized and created systems and staff to address the long-term needs from the years of fire and Pandemic traumas, as well as local tragedies, that have affected our students, staff and families; and

**WHEREAS**, these observances are united in raising awareness that prevention is possible and that when people seek and receive help, they are less likely to die by suicide;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Santa Rosa City Schools will stand with the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention in recognizing September as “National Suicide Prevention Awareness”; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Santa Rosa City Schools will actively participate in statewide and community-based suicide prevention activities throughout September, consistent with the California Education Code's emphasis on student well-being and mental health education; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Santa Rosa City Schools will integrate age-appropriate suicide awareness and prevention education into the curriculum, as appropriate and in accordance with the California Education Code sections 215.

The foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Governing Board of the Santa Rosa City Schools District on the 23rd day of August 2023, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

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President, Governing Board

I, Ever Flores, Clerk of the Governing Board of the Santa Rosa City Schools District, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by the Governing Board at its meeting held on August 23, 2023.

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Clerk, Governing Board