



Resolution Recognizing September 2024 as Suicide Prevention 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 2024 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.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 28th day of August, 2024 by the following vote:.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Roxanne McNally, Clerk of the Board