



SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 8.4

Meeting Date: June 23, 2022

Subject: Resolution No. 3277: Recognizing Pride Month, June 2022

- Information Item Only
- Approval on Consent Agenda
- Conference (for discussion only)
- Conference/First Reading (Action Anticipated: _____)
- Conference/Action
- Action
- Public Hearing

Division: Board Office

Recommendation: Approve Resolution No. 3277: Recognizing Pride Month, June 2022.

Background/Rationale: June 2022 has been designated as LGBTQ+ Pride Month. The District is committed to providing a Safe Haven for all students including the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning (LGBTQ+) community or those that may be perceived as such. The month of June is an opportunity to highlight the identities and contributions of the LGBTQ+ community as well as work to combat bullying and harassment based on sexual orientation and gender expression in order better promote and foster a safe and respectful culture within the District.

Financial Considerations: None

LCAP Goal(s): Family and Community Empowerment; Safe, Emotionally Healthy and Engaged Students

Documents Attached:

1. Resolution No. 3277

<p>Estimated Time of Presentation: 5 minutes Submitted by: Lisa Murawski, Board Member Approved by: Jorge A. Aguilar, Superintendent</p>

**SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION NO. 3277**

RECOGNITION OF LGBTQ+ PRIDE MONTH, JUNE 2022

Whereas, the Sacramento City Unified School District advocates and promotes the safe, inclusive, and respectful treatment of all our students as part of the District's Safe Haven efforts;

Whereas, the District is committed to providing a Safe Haven for all students including the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning (LGBTQ+) community or those that may be perceived as such;

Whereas, the California Education Code, Section 200 ensures that all students receive equal access and rights to educational opportunities in public schools;

Whereas, the Sacramento City Unified School District commits to the implementation of the FAIR (Fair Accurate Inclusive and Respectful) Education Act into the K-12 grade history and social studies curriculum;

Whereas, sexual orientation and gender expression-based bullying is among the most common form of harassment in schools;

Whereas, peer harassment and bullying contribute to significantly higher rates of school dropout, academic failure, and school disengagement among LGBTQ+ youth;

Whereas, LGBTQ+ youth are more likely to experience a mental health condition and are at greater risk of suicide, and deserve vocal acceptance and support, as well as special attention to the unique challenges they may face at school and in their communities;

Whereas, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) approximately 2% of students identify as transgender, and 35% of transgender students attempt suicide;

Whereas, 58% of LGBTQ+ youth reported experiencing symptoms of depression including nearly two-thirds of transgender and nonbinary youth;

Whereas, 14% of LGBTQ+ youth attempted suicide in the past year;

Whereas, according to the Trevor Project, LGBTQ+ youth who found their school to be LGBTQ+-affirming reported lower rates of attempting suicide;

Whereas, the Connect Center is a critical District program for student, staff, and the community. The Connect Center provides training, activities, and lessons for and about LGBTQ+ identities and is committed to fostering a safe and respectful District, school, and community culture;

Whereas, the district has allocated new resources to increase staffing to provide targeted mental health support for our LGBTQ+ youth;

Whereas, the Board of Education approved the updated Board Policy on Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Youth at the September 2, 2021, Board Meeting, which further outlines the services, supports, and protections provided to such students and families;

Whereas, the Board of Education recognizes the shameful history and rejects present-day manifestations of bias against and oppression of LGBTQ+ individuals, and heartily celebrates each LGBTQ+ student and staff as valued members of the SCUSD community; and

Whereas, the COVID-19 pandemic and related stay-at-home orders put extreme stress on many LGBTQ+ youth, given only one in three expressed that their homes were LGBTQ- affirming, according to a survey of LGBTQ+ youth by the Trevor Project;

Whereas, the survey also found that more than 80% of LGBTQ youth stated that COVID-19 made their living situation more stressful, 70% of LGBTQ youth stated that their mental health was "poor" most of the time or always during COVID-19 and 42% of LGBTQ youth seriously considered attempting suicide in 2020-2021, including more than half of transgender and nonbinary youth;

Whereas, this past year has seen an alarming acceleration of laws proposed and passed around the country that threaten the well-being of LGBTQ+ youth, including laws that prohibit positive representations of LGBTQ+ people, so-called "Don't Say Gay" laws that seek to prohibit schools from discussing topics of gender identity or sexual orientation, laws that ban the provision of gender-affirming health care, and laws that require school staff to disclose a minor's perception of their own gender identity to the minor's parent or guardian;

Whereas, by recognizing Pride Month, the District and the Board of Education support policies, practices, and curricula that honor and respect LGBTQ+ students, staff, and their families, and recognize the need to address the specific COVID-19 recovery, support, and mental health needs of LGBTQ+ youth;

Now, Therefore, be it Resolved, that the Sacramento City Unified Board of Education declares June 2022 as LGBTQ+ Pride Month and:

1. Stands in support of laws that promote representation and inclusion of LGBTQ+ people and protect the rights and privacy of transgender and non-gender-conforming children and their families;
2. Stands against laws that prohibit positive representations of LGBTQ+ people, so-called “Don’t Say Gay” laws that seek to prohibit schools from discussing topics of gender identity or sexual orientation, laws banning the provision of gender-affirming health care, and laws requiring school staff to disclose a minor’s perception of their own gender identity to the minor’s parent or guardian;
3. Directs the Superintendent and all District staff to:
 - a. Include plans to meet the unique needs of LGBTQ+ students, families, and staff as our students and schools recover from COVID-19;
 - b. Continue supporting lessons, activities, curricula, and conversations that engage students in meaningful learning, research, and writing about our LGBTQ+ students and families.
 - c. Ensure support for Gay-Straight Alliances and similar student clubs districtwide.
 - d. Enhance LGBTQ+-inclusive curricular resources and mandatory professional development for teachers and staff on district policies and the creation of inclusive environments for all LGBTQ+ students and members of our school communities.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Sacramento City Unified School District Board of Education on this 23rd day of June, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: ____ NOES: ____ ABSTAIN: ____ ABSENT: ____

ATTESTED TO:

_____ Jorge A. Aguilar

Secretary of the Board of Education

_____ Christina Pritchett/by Leticia Garcia, Acting

President of the Board of Education