



# SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 8.3

**Meeting Date:** September 16, 2021

**Subject:** Resolution No. 3226: Recognition of National Suicide Prevention Month

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

**Division:** Human Resource Services

**Recommendation:** Approve Resolution No. 3226: Recognition of National Suicide Prevention Month

**Background/Rationale:** This year, in support of National Suicide Prevention Awareness Week, World Suicide Prevention Day and National Recovery Month, all held in September, we are encouraging a special focus on the intersection between suicide prevention, alcohol and drug use and efforts that foster resilience and recovery for our students and our community. The District's Student Support & Health Services team is dedicated to promoting and providing suicide prevention awareness, education and interventions designed to build resiliency, create safety, and find hope.

**Financial Considerations:** N/A

**LCAP Goal:** Safe, Emotionally Healthy and Engaged Students

**Documents Attached:**

1. Resolution No. 3226

<p><b>Submitted by:</b> Cancy McArn, Chief Human Resources Officer <b>Approved by:</b> Jorge A. Aguilar, Superintendent</p>
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**SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**RESOLUTION NO. 3226**

**Recognition of National Suicide Prevention Month**

**WHEREAS**, the Sacramento City Unified School District recognizes that suicide is a leading cause of death among youth and supports actions in preventing suicidal attempts, and deaths; and

**WHEREAS**, the week of September 5-11, 2021 is National Suicide Prevention Week, and September 2021 is National Recovery Month, when millions of people around the world join their voices to share a message of hope and healing; and

**WHEREAS**, these observances are united in raising awareness that prevention is possible; treatment is effective; and people do recover; and

**WHEREAS**, in these challenging times messages of hope and healing are more needed than ever; and

**WHEREAS**, a recent youth survey by Sacramento cities RISE found that 65% of youth reported not knowing where to get help even if they were willing to seek it out; and

**WHEREAS**, the recent California Healthy Kids Survey of SCUSD students indicated that on average 1 in 5 students has considered suicide in the past 12 months; and

**WHEREAS**, a recent study in the American Medical Association journal JAMA Network Open found that with the COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing, nearly a quarter of people in the United States are experiencing symptoms of depression, three times as much as before the pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, Sacramento residents should be able to easily access high quality and culturally relevant prevention, support, rehabilitation, and treatment services that lead to recovery and a healthy lifestyle; and

**WHEREAS**, every day in Sacramento people enter treatment into behavioral health services and community supports and begin the road to wellness and recovery; and

**WHEREAS**, resiliency begins early in life within families, day cares, and schools, and can be strengthened and reinforced throughout the life span; and

**WHEREAS**, recovery and wellness encompass the whole individual, including mind, body, spirit, culture and community; 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

**WHEREAS**, the benefits of preventing and overcoming mental health challenges, suicide attempts and loss, and substance abuse are significant and valuable to individuals, families, and our community at large; and

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

**WHEREAS**, we must encourage friends, family, co-workers, and providers to recognize the signs of a problem, and guide those in need to appropriate services and supports - as friends and social media are key sources of information for young people; and

**WHEREAS**, the SCUSD Student Support & Health Services team is dedicated to promoting and providing suicide prevention awareness, education and interventions designed to build resiliency, create safety, and find hope.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Sacramento City Unified School District Board of Education proclaims the month of September 2021 is Suicide Prevention and Recovery Month: "Finding Hope, Building Resiliency, Supporting Recovery."

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Sacramento City Unified School District Board of Education on this 16th day of September 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: \_\_\_\_\_  
NOES: \_\_\_\_\_  
ABSTAIN: \_\_\_\_\_  
ABSENT: \_\_\_\_\_

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Christina Pritchett  
President of the Board of Education

ATTESTED TO:

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Jorge A. Aguilar  
Secretary of the Board of Education