

RESOLUTION NO. 23-11

BY THE VISTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING DRUG USE AWARENESS

WHEREAS, the opioid and fentanyl epidemic continues to impact communities in the United States, the State of California, and San Diego County; and

WHEREAS, from March 2018 to February 2019, 47% of drug overdoses involved fentanyl with 20% of U.S. states reporting at least a 98% annual increase in opioid overdose deaths; and

WHEREAS, fentanyl overdose deaths tripled among teens over the past two years, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention; and

WHEREAS, according to a study by the Partnership for a Drug Free America today's young people are more likely to abuse prescription and over the counter drugs, including opioids, than illegal drugs; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, an estimated 10.1 million people aged 12 or older misused opioids in the past year; and

WHEREAS, A study from the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) shows many people buy drugs online, not to save money, but to bypass the need for a prescription from their doctor; and

WHEREAS, drug overdoses have taken the lives of children through easy access to synthetic substances, such as fentanyl; and

WHEREAS, young people think that abusing these drugs to get high is "safer" than abusing illegal drugs; and

WHEREAS, promoting prevention of drug abuse based on scientific evidence as an investment in the well-being of children, adolescents, youth, families and communities; and

WHEREAS, Vista Unified understands that the responsibility for change is now and that partnering with parents will unite us in protecting our children; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees directs the Superintendent to create an appropriate letter to parents and guardians that explains the risks of drug use and its effects on our children, and that it be sent to all families in the Community Update; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees and the Superintendent will encourage and support educational and prevention programs regarding the dangers of misuse and/or abuse of prescription and non-prescription (over the counter) drugs. These programs should include a parent or guardian component that reinforces the facts about substance abuse and the harmful effects; and

BE IT ADDITIONALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees and the Superintendent will educate parents, students, teachers, administrators and community members on the effects and consequences of prescription drugs taken by a person other than the person for whom the drug is prescribed and the use of non-prescription (over the counter) drugs in a manner or amount not included in the “directions for use” instructions or in conflict with the intended use for that medication; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Vista Unified School District this 8th day of September, 2022 hereby passed and adopted Resolution No. 23-11.

AYES: 5

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN: