

Resolution

MONTEREY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION NUMBER 23-24-02

Recognizing

NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH

WHEREAS, incepted in 1989, **National Recovery Month** is observed annually in September to educate society that substance use treatment and mental health services can enable those with a mental and/or substance use disorder to live healthy and rewarding lives, and to celebrate the triumphs of those in recovery; and

WHEREAS, the **National Recovery Month** theme for the 2023 year is: *Join the Voices for Recovery: Together We Are Stronger*, focusing on communal support, bringing understanding and awareness to mental and substance use disorders, and drawing attention to the challenges that many people face; and

WHEREAS, concerns about mental health and substance abuse have grown over the past few years following the COVID-19 pandemic and the Monterey County Board of Education encourages community members to learn about mental and substance use disorders, recognize signs of trouble, and guide those in need to helpful support services; and

WHEREAS, overdose deaths involving fentanyl is on the rise in Monterey County and throughout the nation, and **National Recovery Month** brings awareness to the dangers and prevalence of fentanyl, that counterfeit pills may contain fentanyl, and that even a small amount of fentanyl can cause a deadly overdose; and

WHEREAS, **National Recovery Month** calls upon support from first responders, healthcare workers, community leaders, and advocates to help those struggling with addiction to face their challenges and learn about new ways to live a happy and fulfilling life through the means of treatment facilities, programs, and community organizations whose mission is to help address the mental and substance abuse crisis; and

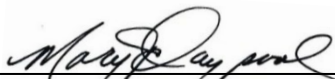
WHEREAS, there is a strong need to educate our communities on how substance use disorders affect children, families, and all community members, and that there are organizations throughout the county that provide residents of all ages with tools and support to overcome challenges, rebuild lives, strengthen families, and create life-long change; and

WHEREAS, through the Safe and Healthy Schools and Communities Coalition, the Monterey County Office of Education is dedicated to providing a comprehensive array of services and programs to ensure schools are a safe, healthy, and inclusive place for all students; and

WHEREAS, **National Recovery Month** promotes the dedication of service providers and community members who make recovery in all its forms possible, highlights new evidence-based treatment and recovery practices, and recognizes the emergence of a strong and proud recovery community:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Monterey County Board of Education adopts Resolution Number 23-24-02 to recognize the month of September as **National Recovery Month** and invites school districts and schools to participate in educating students and their family members about mental and substance use disorders and encourages them to advocate for and make mental health services a priority.

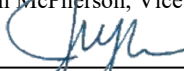
**Passed and Adopted on the
Sixteenth Day of August 2023**



Mary Claypool, President



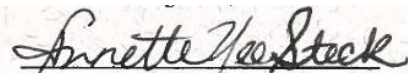
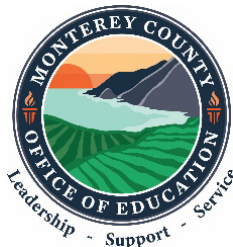
John McPherson, Vice President



Janet Wohlgenuth, Member



Sandra Ocampo, Member



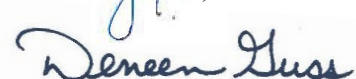
Annette Yee Steck, Member



Heather Owen, Member



Jaime Fernandez, Member



Dr. Deneen Guss, County Superintendent