

Resolution

MONTEREY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION NUMBER 22-23-20

Recognizing

NATIONAL HOMELESS YOUTH AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, November is National Homeless Youth Awareness Month, highlighting the hundreds of thousands of American families that become homeless, including the more than 1.7 million children and youth; and

WHEREAS, the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act defines homeless children and youth as those who have a primary nighttime residence that is not fixed, regular, or adequate, and includes the sharing of housing with other persons due to loss of housing or economic hardship; and

WHEREAS, the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act further defines residences which are not fixed, regular, or adequate to include cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard structures, shelters, and transitional housing; and

WHEREAS, in the 2021-22 school year, approximately 9,586 transitional kindergarten through 12th grade children and youth were identified as experiencing homelessness in Monterey County; and

WHEREAS, during the 2021-22 school year, 444 children under the age of 5 and enrolled in an infant or preschool program, and 621 children under the age of 5 and not enrolled in an infant or preschool program, were identified as experiencing homelessness in Monterey County; and

WHEREAS, children and youth who have experienced homelessness are at risk of being exploited through human trafficking, developing mental health-related issues, experiencing academic challenges, and having a significantly higher chance of dropping out of high school; and

WHEREAS, the Monterey County Office of Education's Homeless Children and Youth Services Program is committed to serving, supporting, and providing leadership to all districts, charter schools, infant, preschool, and Early Start programs, Alternative Education programs, Special Education programs, emergency shelters, domestic violence shelters, and transitional housing shelters; and

WHEREAS, children and youth experiencing homelessness are identified and served by a homeless liaison and/or homeless liaison team appointed by their school district or charter school. The liaisons are responsible for providing services and support, tracking progress and offering interventions as needed, providing professional development, and ensuring the laws protecting the rights of the children and youth are adhered to; and

WHEREAS, working together to minimize the negative effects that homelessness has on children and youth, school district liaisons also provide health and dental referrals, hygiene products, clothing and uniforms, technological devices, college and career counseling, tutoring, transportation, food, and counseling services:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Monterey County Board of Education does hereby adopt Resolution No. 22-23-20 to recognize November as National Homeless Youth Awareness Month.

**Passed and Adopted on the
Sixteenth Day of November, 2022**



Judy Pennycook, President



Mary Claypool, Vice President

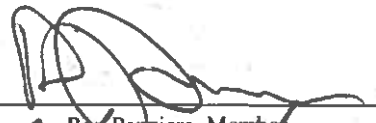


Janet Wohlgenuth, Member



Annette Yee Steck, Member





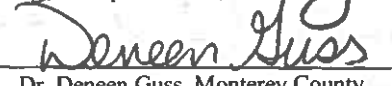
Ron Panziera, Member



John McPherson, Member



Lupe Sanchez, Member



Dr. Deneen Guss, Monterey County
Superintendent of Schools