

**SAN MATEO UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING JUNE 1-30, 2024
AS LGBTQIA+ PRIDE MONTH**

WHEREAS, the San Mateo Union High School District is committed to supporting dignity, equity, and visibility for all people in the community; and

WHEREAS, the San Mateo Union School District has a diverse Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning, Intersex and Asexual (LGBTQIA+) community along with SMUHSD allies; and

WHEREAS, many students, family members, educators, and community members are part of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and/or questioning community, and they contribute greatly to the enrichment of our SMUHSD schools; and

WHEREAS, although advancements have been made with respect to equitable treatment of LGBTQIA+ persons, LGBTQIA+ persons still face discrimination simply for being who they are, thus making it essential for all districts and all communities to stand up and show support for all our students, staff, and families who are affected; and

WHEREAS, the SMUHSD community pledges to uphold our values and champion our responsibility to protect and support all youth by guaranteeing they have access to learning environments that are safe, welcoming, and free of any discrimination; and

WHEREAS, the District's Equity Mission Statement affirms that "All students will learn in a safe, inclusive and equitable environment that validates, respects and honors their unique backgrounds, interests and identities" and that this Mission Statement grounds our commitment to our LGBTQIA+ community members; and

WHEREAS, research underscores the importance of creating accepting communities and LGBTQIA+-affirming spaces for young people. SMUHSD was the leader in planning and promoting the first-ever countywide Pride Prom in San Mateo County in April of 2023. The Pride Prom offers a supportive place for LGBTQIA+ youth to express themselves and thrive; and

WHEREAS, this year, Pride Prom was held in February and was attended by over 200 students and over 35 adult volunteers. Leaders of this event raised over \$20,000, thereby making the event free and accessible to all who wanted to attend; and

WHEREAS, June has historically become a symbolic month in America in which LGBTQIA+ persons and allies come together in various celebrations of pride to support the community's right to live their lives out proud. Many school districts across the United States, including SMUHSD, recognize and celebrate June as LGBTQIA+ Pride Month; and

WHEREAS, despite hardships and discrimination experienced by the LGBTQIA+ community, these individuals have overcome barriers to be successful in all forms of work and self-expression, demonstrating their perseverance and resilience; and

WHEREAS, we continue to work closely with our LGBTQIA+ Community members on our shared goals of developing and implementing ongoing educational, equity, and visibility projects for our LGBTQIA+ students; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the San Mateo Union High School District does hereby declare the month of June as LGBTQIA+ Pride Month in our schools and invites the members of our community to reflect on ways we all can live and work together with a commitment to mutual respect and understanding.

SAN MATEO UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Passed and adopted on the 23rd day of May, 2024.



Superintendent

Ligia Andrade Zuniga

President, Board of Trustees