

SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Resolution #24-47

Recognizing October 2024 as National Dyslexia Awareness Month

WHEREAS, dyslexia is a language-based, specific learning disability that is neurobiological in origin and typically manifests as a deficit in the phonological component of language; and

WHEREAS, dyslexia is one of the most common learning disabilities in California, with at least 15 – 20 percent of the general population being impacted across demographic groups; and

WHEREAS, children who learn to read proficiently perform better in school, attain higher levels of education, experience lower rates of disease, are less likely to be incarcerated or experience poverty, and are more likely to find employment; and

WHEREAS, students with dyslexia experience anxiety, depression, and other mental health conditions two to five times more than their peers; and

WHEREAS, the American Bar Association found that nearly 85 percent of all youth involved with the juvenile court system are unable to read; and

WHEREAS, California's Dyslexia Guidelines published in 2017 set forth that, "the reasons for the overall lack of proficiency in reading achievement are complex, with various contributing factors involved. One of the greatest contributing factors for lower achievement scores in reading is a lack of early and accurate identification of students with dyslexia;" and

WHEREAS, scientific evidence has repeatedly shown early identification and intervention improves literacy outcomes for most students, which is especially true for students with symptoms of dyslexia; and

WHEREAS, effective systems designed to address the needs of students with dyslexia are anchored in a structured literacy approach to instruction as defined in the California Dyslexia Guidelines and in Domain 7 of California's Literacy Teaching Standards and Teaching Performance Expectations, which consist of scientific and evidence-based instructional practices, including, but not limited to, decoding skills, which are necessary to develop foundational skills in early literacy; and

WHEREAS, students at risk for reading disabilities who receive intervention in the first and second grades make gains at nearly twice the rate of children who do not receive intervention until the third grade; and

WHEREAS, by the 2025-2026 academic year, California law now mandates universal screening of all students in Kindergarten, Grade 1, and Grade 2 for reading difficulties, including the risk of dyslexia; and

WHEREAS, California law also mandates that parents and guardians receive results of the California Universal Screening, including information on how to interpret the results and proposed supports and services for students identified as “at-risk;” and

WHEREAS, ensuring a high-quality education and effective reading instruction for all children, including children with disabilities, is a critical responsibility for schools; and


WHEREAS, South San Francisco Unified School District recognizes that our children are our most valuable resource, and we must provide opportunities for all students to learn and grow; and

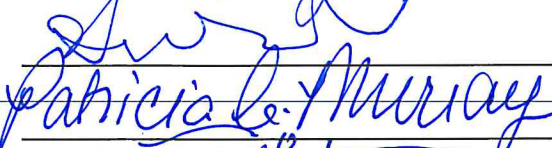
WHEREAS, the South San Francisco Unified School District recognizes the many gifts and strengths associated with dyslexia, including entrepreneurship, creative thinking, and excellence in the arts and sports;

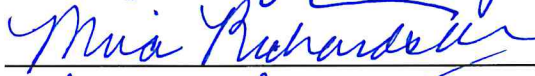
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the South San Francisco Unified School District Board of Trustees hereby recognizes October 2024 as **National Dyslexia Awareness Month**.


REGULARLY PASSED AND ADOPTED this 26th day of September 2024.

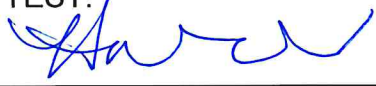
AYES in Favor of Said Resolution

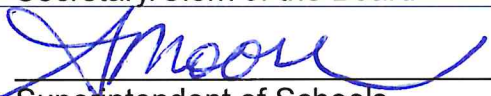








ATTEST:


Secretary/Clerk of the Board


Superintendent of Schools