



RESOLUTION #26-33

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

WHEREAS, suicide the third leading cause of death among adolescents and young adults between the ages of 10 to 24; and

WHEREAS, youth suicide is a preventable public health problem, and educators and schools are key to prevention; and

WHEREAS, declaring September 2026 as Suicide Prevention Month will raise awareness that prevention is possible, treatment is effective, and people do recover; and

WHEREAS, the stigma associated with mental health conditions and suicidality works against suicide prevention by discouraging persons at risk for suicide from seeking life-saving help and further traumatizes survivors of suicide loss and people with lived experience of suicide; and

WHEREAS, to promote student success inside and outside the classroom, we need to provide the tools and training to help school staff create a caring and supportive school environment, because early detection of student mental health issues by trusted adults and referrals for appropriate mental health care can save lives of students; and

WHEREAS, no single suicide prevention effort will be sufficient or appropriate for all populations or communities; mental health and wellness must be a top priority in our schools to increase awareness of mental health issues faced by our students and reduce the number of student suicides; and

WHEREAS, developing and implementing strategies to increase access to quality mental health, substance abuse, suicide prevention services, and wellness center services; and participating in suicide prevention initiatives by working with local organizations that listen to and support those who are at risk for suicide; and,

WHEREAS, September has been recognized as National Suicide Prevention Month, September 13-19, 2026 is recognized across the United States as National Suicide Prevention Week and provides the opportunity to educate our community about warning signs and how best to help those in need, and September 10th is World Suicide Prevention Day, which was first held in 2003 as an initiative of the International Association for Suicide Prevention and the World Health Organization.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oxnard Union High School District hereby declares September 2026 as Suicide Prevention Month and thereby requests that each of our schools, elected officials, community partners and agencies, health care provider, organization, and citizens recommit our community to increasing awareness, and understanding of suicide

prevention. supports the declaration that suicide prevention should be a priority; supporting the designation of September as "National Suicide Prevention Month";

PASSED and ADOPTED this 12th day of August, 2026 by the Board of Trustees of the Oxnard Union High School District.

AYES: 5
NOES: 0
ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

State of California
County of Ventura



Dr. Karen M. Sher, M.Ed.
President, Board of Trustees
Oxnard Union High School District



Dr. Virginia E. Kelsen
Superintendent
Oxnard Union High School District