

Yolo County Board of Education and Yolo County Superintendent of Schools

Resolution #23-24/5 In Support of California High School Voter Weeks, September 16-27, 2024

WHEREAS, Education Code 49040 lists the last two full weeks in September as "High School Voter Weeks," and is supported by the Student Voter Registration Act of 2003, and,

WHEREAS, it is vital that youth in Yolo County play a critical role in our democracy by helping to choose the people who will lead us by voicing their opinions on the issues that are important to them; and

WHEREAS, eligible 16- and 17-year-olds can pre-register to vote and then automatically become active voters once they turn 18; and

WHEREAS, High School Voter Week are an opportunity for schools and civic organization to use traditional and nontraditional methods to focus on increasing voter registration and voter turnout, and work to educate communities on the importance of voting; and

WHEREAS, with the passage of Senate Bill 955 in 2022, students in grades 6-12 are now allowed to have one excused absence per year to participate in a civic or political event, provided that the student notifies the school ahead of the absence; and

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Yolo County Board of Education and the Yolo County Superintendent of Schools endorse and support the High School Voter Weeks of September 16-27, 2024.

BE, IT FURTHER, RESOLVED, that the Yolo County Board of Education and the Yolo County Superintendent of Schools encourage local school districts to develop outreach activities, such as holding voter registration drives and special events to deliver the message of how voting could impact local schools; and encourage high school students to coordinate activities to register eligible students and parents; and encourage teachers to conduct appropriate lessons related to voting, so that elementary and middle school students can encourage their parents to engage in the upcoming elections.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Yolo County Board of Education and the Yolo County Superintendent of Schools at a meeting held on August 13, 2024, by the following vote:

AYES: Esquivel, Moreno, Salud-Ambriz, Yip NOES: None ABSENT: Zendejas

Shelton Yip, President Yolo County Board of Education

Garth Lewis County Superintendent of Schools