

Yolo County Board of Education and Yolo County Superintendent of Schools

Resolution #23-24/42: Mental Health Awareness Month - May 2023

WHEREAS, mental health is essential to everyone's overall health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, since 1949, May has officially been recognized as Mental Health Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, early intervention efforts could greatly reduce the number of people experiencing serious mental health conditions; and

WHEREAS, the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic caused considerable strain in the mental health system and with youth in particular; and

WHEREAS, 16% of youth reported suffering from at least one major depressive episode in the past year, according to the Mental Health America report from 2023; and

WHEREAS, a focus on prevention and early intervention efforts could greatly reduce the number of children experiencing serious mental health conditions; and

WHEREAS, there is strong research that humor, recreation, social connections, and work-life balance can help all Americans protect their health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to improve public awareness of mental illness and to strengthen local and national awareness of brain diseases, so that all those with mental illness may receive adequate and appropriate treatment that will result in their becoming fully functioning members of society; and

WHEREAS, in Yolo County, there are key initiatives to address and improve mental health services for school-age youth, such as the K-12 School Partnership Program, a collaborative effort between Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency and the Yolo County Office of Education.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Yolo County Board of Education and Yolo County Superintendent of Schools proclaims the month of May 2024 as "Mental Health Awareness Month" and requests school districts, government agencies and the wider community recommit to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Yolo County Board of Education and the Yolo County Superintendent of Schools at a meeting held on April 9, 2024.

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

Shelton Yip, President Yolo County Board of Education

Garth Lewis, Superintendent Yolo County Office of Education

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