

NOVATO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. 6-2017/2018

PROCLAIMING OCTOBER AS “BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH”

WHEREAS, October is National Bullying Prevention Month, the goal of which is to encourage communities to work together to stop bullying and cyberbullying by increasing awareness of the prevalence and impact of bullying on children of all ages; and

WHEREAS, bullying can take many forms, including physical, verbal, non-verbal and electronically – known as cyber-bullying; and bullying has devastating effects including an immediate and lifelong impact on resiliency, mental and physical health; and

WHEREAS, approximately 30 percent of students in the U.S. are involved in bullying on a regular basis, either as a victim, bully or both; and

Whereas, bullying directly affects a student's ability to learn. Students who are bullied find it difficult to concentrate, show a decline in grades, and lose self-esteem, self-confidence, and self-worth; and

WHEREAS, the 2015-2016 California Healthy Kids Survey of Marin County students found 34% of 7th, 38% of all 9th graders and 33% of 11th graders reported having been bullied or harassed in the past year; and

WHEREAS, students can be especially effective in bullying intervention. More than 50 percent of bullying situations will stop when a peer intervenes. Student education of how to address bullying for peers is critical, as is the support of adults; and

WHEREAS, silence is no longer an acceptable response to bullying. Adults, students, and educators can no longer look away when they see bullying. Ignoring it won't work. Everyone needs to be empowered with options to respond; and

WHEREAS, the Novato Blue Ribbon Coalition for Youth and Healthy Novato are working to educate the community about bullying through outreach activities including providing training on cyberbullying and internet safety to parents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Novato Unified School District supports efforts to call attention to the issue of bullying and cyberbullying and encourages schools, parents, youth, governmental agencies and the private sector to support efforts to reduce and prevent bullying in our communities, so that every child feels valued, safe and supported.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, this October 3, 2017, at the regular meeting of the Novato Unified School District Board of Education.

AYES: 7

NOES: 0

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Attest: Delal B...
Clerk, Novato Unified School District Board of Trustees