

**SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
RESOLUTION #2017-7**

**Resolution Endorsing May 2017 as Mental Health Awareness Month**

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

**WHEREAS**, behavioral health disorders, including major depression, schizophrenia, panic disorders and obsessive-compulsive disorders affect many children and youth every year, indiscriminant of age, gender, race, ethnicity, religion or economic status; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately 50% of students with a mental health condition 14 years or older drop out of school, the highest dropout rate for any disability group; and

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

**WHEREAS**, federal statistics show that one in ten children has a serious mental health condition, but only a third will receive any care at all—with even fewer receiving appropriate care; and

**WHEREAS**, children, youth and adults can recover from mental illness and lead full, productive lives in the community; and

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

**WHEREAS**, each county office of education, school district, school, elected official, business, government agency, healthcare provider, organization and citizen shares the burden of mental health issues and has a responsibility to promote mental wellness and support prevention efforts.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the San Diego County Board of Education, hereby declares May 2017 as Mental Health Month and thereby requests that each school district, school, elected official, business, government agency, healthcare provider, organization and citizen, recommit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health, the steps our children, youth and adults can take to protect their mental health, and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people, especially children and youth with mental health conditions.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 12th day of April 2017, at a regular meeting of the San Diego County Board of Education.

**SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**



Richard P. Shea, *President*

  
Alicia Muñoz, *Vice President*

  
Paulette Donnellon, *Member*

  
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Mark Powell, *Member*



Edward Velasquez  
*Interim County Superintendent of Schools*