SAN RAMON VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. : 55/26-27

IN SUPPORT OF NEURODIVERGENT INDIVIDUALS AWARENESS MONTH, MARCH 2027

WHEREAS, the concept of neurodiversity recognizes that neurological differences, including autism, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), dyslexia, and other cognitive and processing differences, are natural variations in human development that contribute to the diversity of perspectives, strengths, and experiences within our educational community; and

WHEREAS, some neurodivergent students may experience pressure to mask or conceal aspects of their identities and natural behaviors to conform to social or educational expectations, potentially contributing to emotional fatigue, stress, and reduced feelings of belonging; and

WHEREAS, traditional instructional and assessment practices may not fully reflect the diverse ways students process information, communicate understanding, and demonstrate their knowledge, emphasizing the importance of accessible and responsive educational approaches; and

WHEREAS, neurodivergent students represent an important part of our educational community, and recognizing their individual strengths, learning needs, and experiences can help foster equitable opportunities for academic achievement and personal growth; and

WHEREAS, supportive and affirming school environments play an important role in students' academic development, social-emotional well-being, self-advocacy, and sense of belonging throughout their educational journeys; and

WHEREAS, neurodivergent students may experience challenges related to anxiety, sensory sensitivities, social expectations, and access to appropriate learning supports, highlighting the importance of continued awareness, understanding, and responsive educational practices; and

WHEREAS, neurodivergent individuals make meaningful contributions to their schools, workplaces, and communities through their diverse talents, perspectives, creativity, and experiences, and deserve opportunities to thrive without being defined solely by their challenges or diagnoses; and

WHEREAS, inclusive instructional practices, including Universal Design for Learning (UDL), accessible learning environments, and individualized, evidence-based instructional supports, can help address barriers to learning while benefiting both neurodivergent and neurotypical students; and

WHEREAS, Neurodivergent Individuals Awareness Month would complement existing district observances, including Inclusive Schools Week, Mental Health Awareness Month, and Autism Awareness Month, by providing a dedicated opportunity to recognize a broad range of neurological differences and promote understanding of how diverse cognitive and learning profiles influence students' educational experiences and classroom practices; and

WHEREAS, meaningful awareness can be fostered through accessible, age-appropriate educational resources, optional student-led activities, and opportunities for school communities to reflect on inclusive practices, without requiring students to disclose personal diagnoses or participate in activities that may cause discomfort; and

WHEREAS, the San Ramon Valley Unified School District is committed to fostering welcoming, supportive, and inclusive learning environments that recognize student individuality, promote equitable access to educational opportunities, and encourage the academic and social-emotional growth of all students; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education recognizes the importance of sustaining awareness and understanding of neurodiversity beyond a single month through continued access to educational resources, collaboration, and opportunities to strengthen inclusive instructional practices; and

RESOLUTION NO. : 55/26-27

IN SUPPORT OF NEURODIVERGENT INDIVIDUALS AWARENESS MONTH, MARCH 2027

WHEREAS, the San Ramon Valley Unified School District, through its commitment to academic excellence, equity, and student well-being, strives to meet the diverse academic, developmental, and social-emotional needs of children, youth, and families throughout the community; and

WHEREAS, the San Ramon Valley Unified School District recognizes the value of continually reviewing and strengthening its educational services, instructional practices, and available resources to support students with diverse neurological and learning profiles; and

WHEREAS, supporting students with diverse learning needs from early childhood through graduation requires meaningful collaboration among students, families, educators, community members, and educational professionals; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the San Ramon Valley Unified School District hereby proclaims the month of March 2027 as Neurodivergent Individuals Awareness Month, recognizing the contributions, experiences, and learning needs of neurodivergent individuals throughout the district's educational community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District affirms its commitment to:

1. **Increasing awareness and understanding** of neurodiversity throughout the educational community by making accessible, age-appropriate informational resources available to students, staff, and families, and encouraging voluntary school-based activities, such as student-led awareness initiatives and optional presentations during existing school activities.
2. **Supporting inclusive instructional practices and accessible learning and assessment opportunities** by sharing resources and strategies informed by Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles, evidence-based instructional approaches, and individualized student needs, while recognizing the importance of both flexible methods of demonstrating knowledge and explicit, systematic instruction when appropriate.
3. **Strengthening ongoing inclusion and student advocacy** by building upon existing district initiatives, encouraging student and family perspectives, and promoting opportunities for neurodivergent individuals to contribute to conversations about inclusive school environments, educational resources, and practices that affect their experiences.
4. **Encouraging collaborative and sustainable implementation** by exploring opportunities to work with student leadership groups, educators, families, and the Special Education Community Advisory Committee to share optional awareness materials and activities through existing district communication channels and school structures, without requiring additional instructional mandates or significant new expenditures.
5. **Promoting respectful and voluntary participation** by ensuring that awareness efforts emphasize acceptance, student dignity, and shared understanding, while respecting individual privacy, avoiding assumptions about students' neurological identities, and recognizing that students may choose whether or how to participate.

APPROVED, PASSED and ADOPTED by the following called vote this 17th day of November 2026.

BUDGET IMPLICATION: None

AYES: Ordway, VanLee, Hurd, Clark
NOES: None
ABSENT: Bratt
ABSTAINED: None

C.J. Cammack, Superintendent and Secretary to the Governing Board of San Ramon Valley Unified School District