Joint Resolution No. 20-1  
San Mateo County Board of Education  
and  
San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools  
State of California

Recognizing January 2020 as Human Trafficking Prevention Month

Whereas, in 2011, President Barack Obama issued a Presidential Proclamation designating each January to be National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month and January 11, the anniversary of this proclamation, became known as National Human Trafficking Awareness Day; and

Whereas, slavery was officially abolished in December 1865 by the Thirteenth Amendment, and only recently became illegal worldwide when the last country banned it in 2007; and

Whereas, slavery has not ceased to exist and instead has been rebranded and is growing at an alarming rate with victims forced into modern slavery and subjected to commercial sexual exploitation, forced labor, involuntary domestic servitude, forced marriage, and debt bondage; and

Whereas, approximately 40 million people worldwide, 26 percent of whom are children under the age of 18, have been enslaved and forced into human trafficking through coercion, fraud, and violence; and

Whereas, the populations in the United States most vulnerable to human trafficking include children in the foster care and juvenile justice systems; youth who have run away or are homeless; and children without lawful immigration status; and

Whereas, in 2018, the United States was among the top three countries of origin of federally identified human trafficking victims;

Whereas, a growing number of youth in San Mateo are victims of human trafficking;

Whereas, the San Mateo County Office of Education works with its partners in the Coalition for Safe Schools and Communities to help educators identify the signs of human trafficking, create systems and strengthen partnerships between schools and law enforcement to address human trafficking and raise awareness of this serious issue in San Mateo County;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the San Mateo County Board of Education and the San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools commend the Coalition for Safe Schools and Communities for its work to end human trafficking of children and youth in San Mateo County, encourage schools and law enforcement to continue to work together to support youth impacted by human trafficking, and seek to raise awareness of the presence and impact of human trafficking on San Mateo County’s youth.

SAN MATEO COUNTY  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS  

SAN MATEO COUNTY  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Passed and Adopted on this  
Fifteenth Day of January 2020

President