Joint Resolution No. 20-9
San Mateo County Board of Education
and
San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools
State of California

Recognizing March 2 to 6, 2020, as National School Breakfast Week

Whereas, The School Breakfast Program was established in 1966 as a pilot project to provide funding to assist schools in serving breakfasts to "nutritionally needy" children, and received permanent authorization in 1975; and

Whereas, more than 2.4 billion breakfasts were served to students nationwide during the 2017-2018 school year; and

Whereas, research shows that school-age children who experience hunger have higher levels of absenteeism, more frequent visits to the nurse, and more behavioral challenges than children with healthy diets; and

Whereas, research also shows that school breakfast not only contributes to the nutritional needs and dietary intake of students, it also leads to reduced food insecurity, better test scores, improved student health, and fewer distractions in the classroom throughout the day; and

Whereas, many schools currently offer breakfast to all students during the school day through Breakfast After the Bell programs, removing the stigma of being labeled low-income and reducing barriers to accessibility that keep many hungry students from eating school breakfast; and

Whereas, although recent changes to the “public charge” rule set to be implemented by the federal government have caused fear and anxiety across vulnerable communities, we must urgently work together to dispel those fears so our families are not discouraged from accessing benefits for which they are eligible, including school nutrition programs; and

Whereas, it is incumbent on local education leaders such as the San Mateo County Board of Education and the San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools to ensure our community members understand that public education is exempt from “public charge” and that laws governing school food programs specifically state that information provided to schools may not be shared with other agencies or used by ICE for enforcement.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the San Mateo County Board of Education and the San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools recognize March 2 to 6, 2020, as National School Breakfast week, support expanding access to and enhancing school breakfast programs throughout the county and encourage all citizens to recognize the efforts made by schools, their food service directors, and cafeteria staff to ensure the health, safety, and success of all our children.

SAN MATEO COUNTY
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Passed and Adopted on this
Fifth Day of February 2020

SAN MATEO COUNTY
BOARD OF EDUCATION

President