Recognizing March 21, 2020, as International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

Whereas, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed March 21 the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and called on the international community to redouble its efforts to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination; and

Whereas, all human beings are born free, are equal in dignity and rights, and have the potential to contribute constructively to the development and well-being of their societies; and

Whereas, any doctrine of racial superiority is scientifically false, morally condemnable, socially unjust, and dangerous and must be rejected, along with racial pseudo-theories that attempt to establish the existence of separate human races; and

Whereas, racism and intolerance can take various forms, from denying individuals the basic principles of equality to fueling ethnic hatred that may lead to genocide, all of which can destroy lives and fracture communities; and

Whereas, contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance harm individuals and groups on the basis of their race, ethnicity, national origin and religion, and must be condemned and fought against in whatever form, from petty, everyday humiliation to aggravated violence; and

Whereas, International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, also known as End Racism Day, is a perfect opportunity for school communities to celebrate human unity and the diversity of the human race; and

Whereas, education can foster awareness and cultivate acceptance when school staff understand cultural factors and their influence on student engagement, address rather than dismiss racial conflict, integrate cultural and racial diversity into the curriculum, study the stories of people who have fought against discrimination, learn about the contributions made by people from all parts of the world, and teach students to recognize behaviors that reinforce racism;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the San Mateo County Board of Education and the San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools recognize March 21, 2020, as International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and reaffirm their commitment to eliminate all forms of discrimination and help create schools and communities where all citizens can live in dignity, equality, and peace.

SAN MATEO COUNTY
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Passed and Adopted on this
Fifth Day of February 2020

SAN MATEO COUNTY
BOARD OF EDUCATION

President