Joint Resolution No. 20-13

San Mateo County Board of Education
and
San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools
State of California

In Celebration of the Right to Vote, the 26th Amendment, and the Declaration of March 23, 2020, as the Day of Student Registration to Vote

Whereas, the issue of voting rights in the United States, specifically the enfranchisement and disenfranchisement of different groups, has been contested throughout United States history; and

Whereas, an understanding of the importance and the history of voting rights in the United States is an important part of every student’s civic education; and

Whereas, studies have proven that two of the best ways to engage young voters is to provide opportunities for high-quality civic conversations in the classroom and service learning projects that can affect change on local levels and inspire students to take future action; and

Whereas, young people can play a vital role in our democracy by voicing their opinions and making decisions through the electoral process;

Whereas, the passage of the 26th Amendment on March 23, 1971, lowered the legal voting age in the United States from 21 to 18; and

Whereas, eligible 16- and 17-year-olds can now pre-register to vote online or by paper, and California youth who pre-register to vote will have their registration become active once they turn 18 years old; and

Whereas, the last two weeks in April are designated as High School Voter Education Weeks to provide an opportunity for California high school students to become engaged participants in our democracy; and

Whereas, high schools are encouraged to offer voter registration to eligible students with either paper registration applications or a link to the state’s online voter registration application through the school website or other electronic communications; and

Whereas, students are encouraged to participate in our democracy through civics and voter education programs, volunteering as poll workers, and by encouraging their peers, family members, and community to register to vote and participate in elections;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved the San Mateo County Board of Education and the San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools formally declare Monday, March 23, 2020, the 49th anniversary of the passage of the 26th Amendment, as the Day of Student Registration to Vote.

SAN MATEO COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Passed and Adopted on this Fourth Day of March 2020

SAN MATEO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

President