



Mt. Diablo Unified School District
1936 Carlotta Drive
Concord, CA 94519
(925) 682-8000

OFFICE OF
STUDENT SERVICES

**Proclamation of November as Homeless Youth Awareness Month
Resolution No. 19/20-28**

WHEREAS, Organizations nationwide have declared November as Runaway and Homeless Youth Month to increase awareness of the urgent needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness; and

WHEREAS, Awareness of the youth homelessness, and its causes, must be heightened to ensure greater support for effective programs and supports for homeless youth;

WHEREAS, National studies suggest that up to 4.2 million youth experience homelessness and in California alone over 200,000 youth up to the age of 18 and thousands more between 18 and 24 experience homelessness in the course of a year; and

WHEREAS, The U.S Department of Education defines homeless youth as youth who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence;

WHEREAS, California Schools reported 246,296 students in 2018 as homeless or living in unstable living conditions;

WHEREAS, In 2018-2019, an estimated 2,800 students in Contra Costa County were identified by schools as homeless or living in unstable living conditions;

WHEREAS, Homeless children and youth are nine times more likely to repeat a grade; and

WHEREAS, Homeless children are three times more likely than their peers to be placed in special education;

WHEREAS, Homeless children and youth are four times more likely than their peers to drop out of school;

WHEREAS, the future well-being of our schools and county depends on the value we place on our youth and, in particular, on our actions to provide these most vulnerable of our young people with opportunities to acquire the knowledge, skills and abilities they need;

WHEREAS, the Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) Program supports homeless students and families through educational advocacy and support while promoting awareness in schools and the community;

WHEREAS, Assistance provided by the Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program includes:

- Providing support to schools in the identification of students who are experiencing homelessness;
- Facilitating professional development trainings and outreach for school personnel regarding the educational rights and services provided to homeless students;
- Providing services and support for youth experiencing homelessness and assisting in accessing the opportunities to acquire the knowledge, skills, and abilities they need to develop into healthy and productive adults.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mt. Diablo Unified School District Board of Education that we do hereby recognize the month of November as Homeless Youth Awareness Month and recognize the unique needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness to increase both awareness of the issue and their commitment to helping these young people succeed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be distributed to all schools within the district.

Joanne Durkee, President

Linda Mayo, Vice President

Cherise Khaund, Board Member

Debra Mason, Board Member

Brian Lawrence, Board Member

Adopted this 18 day of November, 2019