



MT. DIABLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD
RESOLUTION 23/24 - 49

in Recognition of March as Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness Month

WHEREAS Over-the-Counter (OTC) medications have a wider safety margin than prescription medications, they're usually used to treat common, minor illnesses, such as allergies or joint pain. A prescription is a medicine that can only be made available to a patient on the written instruction of an authorized health professional. Examples of prescription drugs are ss Adderall, Oxycodone, Norco, Vicodin, Zyrtec, Advil, Prozac, and Ritalin; and

WHEREAS every medication has some risk for harmful effects, doctors and dentists consider the potential benefits and risks to each patient before prescribing medications and take into account a lot of different factors. When prescription drugs are misused, they can be just as dangerous as drugs that are made illegally; and

WHEREAS there are three kinds of prescription drugs that are commonly misused: opioids used to relieve pain, depressants used to relieve anxiety or help a person sleep, and stimulants used for treating attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD); and

WHEREAS misuse of prescription drugs means taking a medication in a manner or dose other than prescribed; taking someone else's prescription, even if for a legitimate medical complaint such as pain; or taking a medication to feel euphoria (i.e., to get high); and

WHEREAS repeated misuse of prescription opioids can lead to a substance use disorder (SUD), a medical illness which ranges from mild to severe and from temporary to chronic. Addiction is the most severe form of an SUD. An SUD develops when continued misuse of the drug changes the brain and causes health problems and failure to meet responsibilities at work, school, or home; and

WHEREAS there were 13,640,794 prescriptions for opioids in 2022 (decline from 2021 14,777,578 per the CA Department of Public Health, California Overdose Surveillance Dashboard); and

WHEREAS there were 21,316 Emergency Department visits related to opioid overdose in 2022 (slight increase from 2021 when CA had 21,016 Emergency Department visits related to opioid overdose per the CA Department of Public Health, California Overdose Surveillance Dashboard); and

WHEREAS there were 7,385 deaths related to opioid overdose in 2022 (slight increase from 2021 when CA had 7,175 deaths related to opioid overdose per the CA Department of Public Health, California Overdose Surveillance Dashboard); and

WHEREAS there were 6,473 deaths related to fentanyl overdose in 2022 (increase from 2021 when CA had 5,961 deaths related to fentanyl overdose per the CA Department of Public Health, California Overdose Surveillance Dashboard); and

WHEREAS there were 216 sites in California which participated in the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Annual National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on October 28, 2023 and 27,988 pounds of medication were turned in; and

WHEREAS the Mt. Diablo Unified School District encourages our community to support the DEA's next National Prescription Drug Take Back Day which is Saturday, April 27, 2024 10:00AM to 2:00PM. The National Prescription Drug Take Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of medications; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Mt. Diablo Unified School District does hereby declare March 2024 as Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness Month, and encourages all community members to participate in prescription drug abuse related prevention programs and activities;

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT the Mt. Diablo Unified School District Board members encourage all community members to pledge, "Spread the Word... One Pill Can Kill."

AYES: NOES: ABSENCES: ABSTENTIONS:

Erin McFerrin, Board President

Linda Mayo, Board Vice President

Cherise Khaund, Board Member

Debra Mason, Board Member

Keisha Nzewi, Board Member

Dr. Adam Clark, Superintendent

Resolution 23/24-49

Adopted at the meeting of the MDUSD Governing Board of Education on 2/21/2024

Additional Resources:

<https://www.drugabuse.gov/drug-topics/prescription-medicines>

<https://www.drugabuse.gov/drug-topics/commonly-used-drugs-charts#prescription-opioids>

<https://www.drugabuse.gov/drug-topics/opioids/opioid-overdose-crisis>

<https://www.dea.gov/takebackday>