



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: March 3, 2026

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____

4/5 Vote Required

Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California, Proclaiming February 2026 As Career Technical Education Month

Whereas, students who participate in high quality career connected learning demonstrate increased academic engagement, persistence, and achievement, along with improved wellbeing and greater clarity about their future goals; and

Whereas, Career and Technical Education (CTE) provides a critical bridge between academic learning and real-world application, ensuring students graduate prepared for college, career, and lifelong success; and

Whereas, Career Technical Education (CTE) Foundation plays a vital role in strengthening partnerships among schools, employers, and community organizations, aligning education with workforce needs and advancing regional economic priorities outlined in the Economic Development Board 3.0 Action Plan; and

Whereas, CTE programs prepare students for high demand, high wage careers in critical sectors including STEM and advanced manufacturing, the green economy, information technology, healthcare, hospitality, agriculture, and other industries essential to Sonoma County's economic vitality, particularly for students facing systemic barriers to opportunity; and

Whereas, integrated career pathway models have proven effective in improving graduation rates, increasing postsecondary attainment, and supporting successful transitions into college and careers; and

Whereas, local school districts including Santa Rosa City Schools, West Sonoma County Union High School District, and Petaluma City Schools are advancing innovative approaches to secondary education through the New School Model initiative led by the Career Technical Education (CTE) Foundation; and

Whereas, CTE Foundation, in partnership with the Sonoma County Office of Education, has launched Path to Purpose, a countywide internship program expanding access to meaningful, career connected learning experiences aligned with regional workforce needs and pathways to living wage careers; and

Whereas, collaboration among educators, employers, community organizations, government agencies, postsecondary and higher education institutions is essential to sustaining effective CTE systems; and

Whereas, expanding equitable access to career connected learning is necessary to close persistent education and skills gaps, meet local workforce demands, and empower students to make informed decisions about their academic and career pathways.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims February 2026 as Career Technical Education Month, recognizing Career Technical Education as an essential strategy for student success, school innovation, workforce readiness, and economic resilience in Sonoma County.

Supervisors:

Rabbitt:

Coursey:

Gore:

Hopkins:

Hermosillo:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

So Ordered.