



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: February 11, 2025

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____

4/5 Vote Required

Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California, Proclaiming February 2025 As Career Technical Education Month

Whereas, students who engage in career-connected learning experience report higher levels of academic success, including increased engagement, academic challenge, and enhanced mental and emotional well-being; and

Whereas, the CTE Foundation, instrumental in expanding community-industry-education partnerships, connects students with employers, supports the alignment of education with workforce needs, and provides clear pathways to local employment and careers, as outlined in the Economic Development Board 3.0 Action Plan; and

Whereas, career and technical education (CTE) programs develop skills aligned with in-demand jobs in STEM/advanced manufacturing, the green economy, information technology, healthcare, and other critical sectors, improving outcomes for communities facing structural barriers to equal opportunity; and

Whereas, we recognize the proven effectiveness of integrated 'pathway' models in preparing students for success in college, career, and life; and

Whereas, we celebrate the transformative efforts underway in local districts, including Santa Rosa City Schools, West Sonoma County Union High School, and Petaluma City Schools, supported by the 'New School Model' project led by the Career Technical Education Foundation; and

Whereas, the success of CTE programs relies on collaboration between educational institutions, industry leaders, community organizations, government agencies, and other stakeholders, forming a network that supports the holistic development of students; and

Whereas, education models providing connections with local employers and early access to college credits are among the most powerful tools for equity being implemented by school districts statewide; and

Whereas, embracing diversity, equity, and inclusion in CTE aligns with our collective goal of breaking down systemic barriers to education and employment, ensuring equitable access to the benefits of career-connected learning regardless of background; and

Whereas, implementing and strengthening programs for career-connected learning is a necessity to close the education and skills gap, establishing cradle-to-career pipelines for all students to earn a living wage or above, and meeting local workforce needs; and

Whereas, career-connected learning opportunities empower learners to make informed decisions about academic and career goals amid increased uncertainty about their future.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors proclaims February 2025 as Career Technical Education Month, recognizing the need for an inclusive, integrated, and transformative approach to education and career pathways essential for the success and well-being of young people in Sonoma County.

Supervisors:

Gorin:

Coursey:

Gore:

Hopkins:

Rabbitt:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

So Ordered.