



County of Sonoma
State of California

Date: September 28, 2021

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____



4/5 Vote Required

**Resolution of the Board of Supervisors, County of Sonoma, State of California,
Congratulating Maite Iturri on her Years of Service and Contributions to the Sonoma
Valley Unified School District**

WHEREAS, after many years of work in her family restaurant located in North Beach in San Francisco, Maite Iturri began her career in education in the 1980's and joined Sonoma Valley Unified School District in 1993 as a Bilingual Teacher and was named Principal at El Verano Elementary School in Sonoma Valley in 2005; and

WHEREAS, Maite Iturri was born and raised in San Francisco in an immigrant, bilingual and bicultural home, attended Lowell High School and received her undergraduate and graduate degrees and teaching certifications from U.C. Berkeley, Sonoma State University and U.C. Davis, respectively and is within a year of completing her doctorate at U.C. Davis; and

WHEREAS, Maite has been an exceptional education mentor and role model inspiring others to go into the educational field, led initiatives designed to create access and close the opportunity gaps that exist in the community, and is credited with helping to start Sonoma Valley Unified School District's first dual immersion program at Flowery School; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure as Principal, Maite opened Sonoma Valley Unified School District's first on-site preschool, introduced new science and art programs at El Verano, organized community forums, expanded after-school enrichment programs and hosted the Valley Vibes youth orchestra program making music instruction accessible to students; and

WHEREAS, her leadership-has always been defined by equity and social justice, and was central to the establishment of the El Verano Family Resource Center which helped parents to lead and students to thrive, and was an important part of the transition of El Verano into the community school model and transforming the teaching model to a relationship based, student centered approach; and

WHEREAS, Beyond her responsibilities as Principal of El Verano, Maite also served as the District's Summer School Principal at the high school, was the K-12 Summer School Coordinator, Director of District Programs, District Language Advisory Committee, Equity and Inclusion Task Force, Parent Advisory Committee, Teachers College Writers Workshop and Early Childhood Education and oversaw Student Transfers; and

WHEREAS, Maite secured more than \$7 million in grants to El Verano School and Sonoma Valley Unified School District and worked to unify Sonoma Valley by constantly raising the voice and perspective of the people to the city, county and other seats of power ensuring that they were heard and accounted for; and

WHEREAS, Maite's advocacy for Latinx students and families has provided essential resources above and beyond those provided by the school district, city and county, and has dedicated her life to fostering improvements in the Springs community through parent encouragement, involvement and social opportunities; and

WHEREAS, in response to the Covid-19 Pandemic Maite co-founded Food for All/Comida para Todos which raised funds to purchase and deliver necessary, nutritious and culturally relevant food and stay at home boxes for the disenfranchised families, farmworkers and essential workers in Sonoma Valley and the Springs Community feeding over 20,000 people over the last year; and

WHEREAS, Maite worked diligently to uphold and protect the human rights and dignity of the Springs families and was the recipient of the October 2020 North Bay Spirit Award which honors "exceptional individuals who go above and beyond in voluntary service to their communities, often by identifying important needs and creating programs or organizations to address those needs"; and

WHEREAS, Maite exemplified the best in public and community service, serving on both civic and community organizations, including the Springs Municipal Advisory Council where she was appointed in 2019 by Supervisor Susan Gorin currently serving her second consecutive term as Chair, as a member of the Catalyst Fund and as an appointee to the Community Recreation & Parks Task Force (Recreation Task Force) for the City of Sonoma; and

WHEREAS, Maite Iturri is described as a person who desires and practices fairness and respect in her treatment of and communications with all people, provides leadership opportunities for teachers, parents, and students, believes that education means more than career readiness, creates a space where communication is open and honest and where all feel included and welcome to contribute, and maintains a humanistic model for education for the benefit for her students and their families, their teachers, and the larger community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma do hereby recognize Maite Iturri for her years of extraordinary service to her community, parents and students of El Verano Elementary School and the Sonoma Valley Unified School District.

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors, the First District team, the Springs Community, parents, students, family and friends across Sonoma Valley and Sonoma County wish Maite Iturri the best in her new endeavors. May she have a life full of happiness and beautiful and loving moments with her husband, mother, son, daughter in law and soon to be born grandchild. All of us wholeheartedly approve this resolution honoring Maite's magnificent work for children, families, and community as a whole.

Supervisors:

Gorin:	Rabbitt:	Coursey:	Gore:	Hopkins:
Ayes:	Noes:	Absent:	Abstain:	

So Ordered.