

RESOLUTION NO. 21/24-25

IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL DAY OF SILENCE, APRIL 11, 2025

WHEREAS, National Day of Silence is observed on a Friday in April each year, and this school year on Friday, April 11, 2025; and

WHEREAS, National Day of Silence is a student-led national event when some students choose to take a vow of silence to bring attention to the name calling, bullying and harassment that many lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ+) youth face in schools by demonstrating the silencing effect of bullying and harassment; and

WHEREAS, National Day of Silence has been observed since 1997, and at more than 10,000 U.S. middle schools, high schools, colleges, and universities; and

WHEREAS, national data shows half of all LGBTQ+ students report verbal, sexual or physical harassment at school; and

WHEREAS, national data shows that nearly 30 percent of LGBTQ+ students report missing at least one day of school in the last month for fear of their personal safety; and

WHEREAS, in San Ramon Valley Unified School District, all students and staff have a right to a safe and healthy school environment; and

WHEREAS, San Ramon Valley Unified School District believes it is our obligation to promote mutual respect, tolerance and acceptance on all our campuses, and to always intervene and stop bullying and hateful comments; and

WHEREAS, by helping all students, teachers, staff and parents understand the plight of LGBTQ+ students and develop empathy for them, we can help prevent bullying and harassment of LGBTQ+ students and help these students live a happier childhood and enable them to access their education free from fear; and

WHEREAS, California State Ed Code Section 220 provides that public schools have an affirmative obligation to combat sexism and other forms of bias, and a responsibility to provide equal educational opportunity to all pupils; and

WHEREAS, state laws and District policies prohibit discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying based on the student's actual race, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, ethnicity, ethnic group identification, age, religion, marital or parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or genetic information; or the perception of one

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or more such characteristics; or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics;

WHEREAS, the Board of Education acknowledges and supports the voluntary participation of students in the National Day of Silence; and

WHEREAS, National Day of Silence will not alter instruction on April 11, but teachers may discuss the National Day of Silence, and are asked to be thoughtful and sensitive as they create lesson plans; and

WHEREAS, students are required to verbally contribute to class if verbal participation is part of that day's lesson plan; and

WHEREAS, flying the progress pride flag on Day of Silence on Friday, April 11, 2025 symbolizes the District's celebration of diversity and support for the LGBTQ+ community. The pride flag will fly at the District Office and at all District sites.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that San Ramon Valley Unified School District's Board of Education proclaims SRVUSD student participation in the National Day of Silence on Friday, April 11, 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be distributed to all schools within the District. This resolution is not intended to require any District student or employee to participate in the National Day of Silence.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the following called vote this 13th day of August, 2024.

BUDGET IMPLICATION: None

AYES: *Bratt, Clark, Ordway, vanZee, Hurd*
NOES: *None*
ABSENT: *None*
ABSTAINED: *None*


C.J. Cammack, Superintendent and Secretary to
the Governing Board of San Ramon Valley Unified
School District