

**National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month
Resolution No. 04-090524**

WHEREAS; September is recognized as National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. The resolution was created to raise the visibility of mental health and proactive suicide prevention resources in our community, to share a message of hope and healing, and to recognize that everyone has a role to play in preventing suicide; and

WHEREAS; suicide affects people regardless of age, gender, or background. According to the CDC, suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death for ages 10-24 and 24-34 and 3rd leading cause of death for ages 15-24; with more than 49,000 people dying by suicide annually in the United States (2022); and

WHEREAS; with each individual death by suicide having a far-reaching direct impact on family members, friends, service members, and social media connections, we can assume that everyone has been impacted by suicide; and

WHEREAS; the **MOUNTAIN VIEW WHISMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT** is no different than any other community in the country and chooses to publicly state and place our full support behind educators, mental health professionals, coaches, community leaders, first responders, and parents as partners in supporting our community; and

WHEREAS; local and national organizations like the HEARD Alliance, California Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI), California Department of Education (CDE) Youth Suicide Prevention, and National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) continue to raise awareness and provide education and training to support suicide-safe communities.

WHEREAS; help and support are available 24/7 via phone call, text, or chat from the 988 Suicide Crisis Lifeline - dial or text 9-8-8 and be connected to a crisis center or chat at 988lifeline.org - for people struggling with depression or suicidal thoughts, and for anyone who is concerned about a loved one or simply someone they know; and

WHEREAS; MOUNTAIN VIEW WHISMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT continues to support:

1. Services provided by the School Counseling Program and Crisis Response Team in each school to support our children and youth, and the continued partnering with parents to offer resources and referrals for students in need of social-emotional and mental health supports;
2. Ongoing professional learning for all staff to identify and respond to at-risk students;
3. Partnerships with professional organizations and community agencies,
4. Efforts to develop resiliency, protective factors, and other social-emotional competencies; and
5. Strategies to engage parents as partners in effective prevention; and

WHEREAS; we encourage all staff, students, families, and community members to recognize the power of connection and support. You can bring hope for brighter days by reaching out. You are not alone.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of Education do hereby proclaim the month of September 2024 as National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month in the MOUNTAIN VIEW WHISMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT.

Devon Conley
President of the Mountain View Whisman School District