



MT. DIABLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD  
RESOLUTION 24/25-8

**Attendance Awareness Month September 2024**

**WHEREAS**, the nation is experiencing a school absenteeism crisis, making good attendance more essential than ever to student well-being, achievement and graduation; and

**WHEREAS**, students and families are more likely to show up and engage when there are positive conditions for learning at school, including physical and emotional health and safety; a sense of belonging, connection and support; academic challenges and engagement; and adults and peers with social emotional competency; and

**WHEREAS**, reducing chronic absence (missing 10% or more of school for any reason) requires a comprehensive trauma-informed approach that starts with prevention and early intervention, including developing routines and trusting relationships that create a sense of belonging rather than responding with punitive action, which research finds is not particularly effective; and

**WHEREAS**, families living in poverty and under-served students face greater stressors and hardships that lead to lost instructional time in the classroom and reduced social time with peers; and

**WHEREAS**, improving attendance and engagement takes schools, families, elected leaders and other community partners working together to rebuild regular and trusting communications and to identify and address barriers to being in school; and

**WHEREAS**, taking attendance daily in a caring, consistent manner is essential to identifying when students begin to miss too much school, and for noticing - as soon as possible - when students are starting to miss too much school and engaging students and families with needed support and resources; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mt. Diablo Unified School District recognizes September as "Attendance Awareness Month." We hereby commit to focusing on reducing absenteeism and addressing the factors that cause students to miss school in order to ensure all children an equal opportunity to learn, grow and thrive academically, emotionally, and socially. We recognize that we must work together to build an engaging school environment that motivates attendance and sends the message that learning can and must continue.

AYES:      NOES:      ABSENCES:      ABSTENTIONS:

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Erin McFerrin, Board President

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Linda Mayo, Board Vice President

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Cherise Khaund, Board Member

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Debra Mason, Board Member

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Keisha Nzewi, Board Member

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Dr. Adam Clark, Superintendent

*Resolution 24/25-8*

*Adopted at the meeting of the MDUSD Governing Board of Education on 8/28/2024*