RESOLUTION No. 2014-2015.24 Declaring Alameda Public Schools Domestic Violence Free Zones

WHEREAS, October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, each year approximately 3 million children observe abuse of one parent by another; and

WHEREAS, children living in homes with domestic violence are 15 times more likely to be neglected, and 70% of these children will be physically or sexually abused; and

WHEREAS, many children witnessing domestic violence come to believe that violence is acceptable and begin to display various emotional, physical, and behavioral disturbances; and

WHEREAS, learning disabilities are common among children living in homes with domestic violence, and they often suffer developmental delays in verbal, cognitive and motor abilities; and

WHEREAS, 36% of adolescent girls, who have dates between the ages of 13-18, report they have experienced physical violence in a dating relationship; and

WHEREAS, schools often play a role in creating a more stable environment by modeling and teaching alternatives to violence and acting as a resource and support to families; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Alameda recognize that domestic violence is incompatible with healthy relationship and that breaking the cycle of violence requires a focused and coordinated community response;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alameda Unified School District Board of Education hereby declares all Alameda public schools as Domestic Violence Free Zones.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of October, 2014.

Ayes: Members:

Noes: Members:

Absent: Members:

Margie Sherratt, President Board of Education Alameda Unified School District