

# PROCLAMATION

## *Day of the Special Educator*

*WHEREAS*, December 3<sup>rd</sup> is celebrated as the Day of the Special Educator in California as a tribute to the exemplary service that special educators have dedicated to teaching pupils with unique needs; and

*WHEREAS*, Special educators are dedicated, hardworking, and an invaluable resource; and

*WHEREAS*, Special educators personalize and develop goals for pupils that are tailored to each pupil's individual needs and abilities; and

*WHEREAS*, Special educators are involved in behavioral, social and academic development and help children to develop emotionally, to feel comfortable in social situations, and to be aware of socially acceptable behavior; and

*WHEREAS*, Special educators work closely with parents to inform them of their child's progress and suggest techniques to promote learning at home; and

*WHEREAS*, Special educators design, modify, and deliver appropriate curricula based on best teaching practices and epitomize good teaching techniques in all aspects of their work; and

*WHEREAS*, Special educators help pupils overcome weaknesses by building upon their strengths; and

*WHEREAS*, Special educators know that all children can learn but not in the same way or at the same pace; and

*WHEREAS*, Special educators work to stay abreast of the latest laws governing special education to ensure that each pupil's individualized education program (IEP) is a complete and beneficial document for the pupil and the pupil's parents and teachers; and

*WHEREAS*, Special educators exhibit qualities of compassion, patience, and flexibility and are the unsung heroes who pull all of the pieces together and make things clear for the pupil; and

*WHEREAS*, Special educators are responsible for duties in addition to teaching, including coordinating related services and meetings, acting as an authority on assessments, and managing IEP paperwork, that help to ensure that the school district has met its legal responsibility of a free and appropriate education; and

*WHEREAS*, Special educators build collaborative relationships based on trust, teamwork, and shared accountability; and

*WHEREAS*, Special educators are open-minded and eager learners who are always looking to improve their techniques and find better source materials for their pupils; and

*WHEREAS*, Special educators hold the highest expectations for success for their pupils to self-actualize and achieve their full potential; and

*WHEREAS*, Special educators include mild/moderate and moderate/severe special education teachers, speech and language pathologists, paraprofessionals, psychologists, behavior specialists, occupational therapists, adaptive physical education teachers, deaf and hard-of-hearing specialists, visually impaired specialists, orientation and mobility specialists, physical therapists, and nurses who work in schools and serve pupils in special education; now

*THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED* that the Alameda Unified School District Board of Education hereby recognizes that December 3<sup>rd</sup> be proclaimed Day of the Special Educator in appreciation of the contributions made by special educators in California schools.

*PASSES AND ADOPTED* this 9<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2014.

Ayes:	Members:
Noes:	Members:
Absent:	Members:

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, President  
Board of Education  
Alameda Unified School District

ATTEST:

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary of the Board of Education  
Alameda Unified School District