

PROCLAMATION

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 14, 2020 AS

Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day

WHEREAS, RUBY BRIDGES will be visiting Martin Elementary School in South San Francisco on March 20, 2020, and is an American activist who walked to school nearly every day and became a symbol of the civil rights movement at age six when she was the youngest of a group of African American students designated to integrate schools in the American South; and

WHEREAS, on November 14, 1960, RUBY BRIDGES was the only student of the group to enroll in William Frantz Elementary School in New Orleans, and on her first day of school, she was escorted by four federal marshals, and spent the entire day in the principal's office as irate parents marched into the school to remove their children; and

WHEREAS, RUBY BRIDGES stood for equality and desegregation in the early 1960s and is currently the chair of the Ruby Bridges Foundation, which she formed in 1999 to promote "the values of tolerance, respect, and appreciation of all differences"; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, scholars of Deborah Carlino's fifth-grade class from Martin Elementary School in the South San Francisco Unified School District learned about RUBY BRIDGES and were advocates for the adoption of a "Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day" as a means to honor Ruby's role in the Civil Rights Movement and each year, in conjunction with San Mateo County Office of Education Safe Routes to School program, leads this effort, which has led to a county-wide walk to school day.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, hereby designates the November 14, 2020 as "Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day," joining San Mateo County Office of Education, the South San Francisco Unified School District and the City of South San Francisco in observing this day.

Dated: March 10, 2020

SUPERVISORS:

WARREN SLOCUM, President

DAVE PINE

CAROLE GROOM

DON HORSLEY

DAVID J. CANEPA

Attest: _____
Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors