

*THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA*  
*PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING APRIL 6-12, 2024 AS*

**The Week of the Young Child**

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**WHEREAS**, the first years of a child’s life are the period of the most rapid brain development and lay the foundation for all future learning and there are 75,000 children, birth through age 9, in our county, 16% of whom live below the California poverty rate; and

**WHEREAS**, 72% of young children in our county have all available parents in the workforce and require child care while their parents work, and child care costs often exceed the cost of college tuition, and 79% of eligible families do not receive child care assistance due to lack of funding; and

**WHEREAS**, participation in high–quality early childhood education saves taxpayer dollars, makes working families more economically secure and prepares children to succeed in school, earn higher wages and live healthier lives; and

**WHEREAS**, high–quality early childhood education depends on educators who deserve a family–sustaining wage that is commensurate with the required education and skills they bring to the complex and valuable work they do; and

**WHEREAS**, young children need skilled, educated, competent, consistent and compensated early childhood educators who reflect a rich diversity of linguistic, racial and cultural identities, and young children deserve to be able to access programs operated in high-quality, safe, accessible, and climate-resilient facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, working families need robust subsidies, scholarships and tax credits at all income levels that support the true cost of quality early childhood education, and early childhood educators need basic workplace benefits such as health insurance, retirement, paid sick leave, paid vacation and professional development leave.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED*** that the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, hereby designates April 6–12, 2024 as the Week of the Young Child, recognizing that high quality early childhood education is a public good & essential safety net service, and urges all members of our community to support efforts that increase children and families’ access to high–quality early childhood education.

***Dated: April 9, 2024***

SUPERVISORS:

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WARREN SLOCUM, President

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DAVE PINE

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NOELIA CORZO

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RAY MUELLER

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DAVID J. CANEPA

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors