

March 19, 2024

APPROVED: DD:br

Board Meeting – March 19, 2024

Item. VI. Consent Calendar Recommendations

- E. Adoption of Board Resolution No. 44: Recognizing Earth Day as April 22, 2024

The Superintendent recommends that the County Board adopt Board Resolution No. 44 as part of the regular County Board meeting on March 19, 2024; and further recommends that the County Board proclaims April 22, 2024 as Earth Day and the month of April 2024 as Earth Month and encourages districts and communities to observe Earth Day and Earth Month with appropriate programs and activities.

Board Resolution No. 44 is shown on the following page.

NEXT STEPS:

- Send out LACOE communication to all 80 districts to encourage districts, schools, and partner organizations to observe this month and with appropriate programs and activities
- Highlight LACOE's leadership and commitment to environmental justice on social media, such our Green Initiative and reduced carbon footprint through excellence and innovation around remote work and various other efforts like outdoor learning

BOARD RESOLUTION

No. 44: 2023-24

Earth Day (April 22) and Earth Month (April)

WHEREAS, in 1987, the United Nations Brundtland Commission defined sustainability as “meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”; and

WHEREAS, the three pillars of sustainability are: social, economic and environmental. All three pillars must work in conjunction with providing a balanced approach; and

WHEREAS, there is extensive consensus within the scientific community that human activities contribute to increases in greenhouse gas emissions. Increased emissions result in a greater threat of climate change to the Earth and this threat can only be solved by combined human effort; and

WHEREAS, the negative impacts of climate change, including public health and economic consequences, have a disproportionate impact on chronically underserved communities and communities of color; and

WHEREAS, implementation of sustainable practices on school campuses, capital investments to improve energy efficiency, and other environmentally mindful purchasing decisions can yield significant cost savings for schools; and

WHEREAS, as we head into Earth Month in April, we acknowledge that Earth Day was first celebrated on April 22, 1970. This day marks the anniversary of the modern environmental movement, which has been celebrated annually. This also led to the creation of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Occupational Safety and Health Act; and


WHEREAS, Earth Month has become a time for Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) staff to gather in an annual appreciation of Earth through Green Team events; and

WHEREAS, LACOE welcomes a Climate Corps Fellow to work specifically on sustainability efforts at LACOE and as a support to its Local Educational Agencies

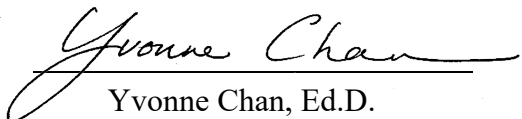
WHEREAS, LACOE will hold its third annual symposium on environmental sustainability for its 80 school districts and all constituents on May 3. The Green Schools Symposium will be held at Davinci High Schools, Wiseburn USD and will feature innovative learning environments best practices for integrating environmental sustainability into school facilities, and will have a specific focus on the impact of extreme heat on school facilities and students; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Los Angeles County Board of Education hereby proclaims April 22, 2024 as Earth Day and the month of April 2024 as Earth Month and encourages districts and communities to observe Earth Day and Earth Month with appropriate programs and activities.

ADOPTED this 19th day of March 2024 by the Los Angeles County Board of Education in Downey, California.



Debra Duardo, M.S.W., Ed.D.
Superintendent



Yvonne Chan, Ed.D.
Board President