

WOODLAND JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



**Resolution 11-24:
Domestic Violence Awareness Month - October 2023**

WHEREAS, the home should be a place of unconditional love, warmth, and security; however, for many Americans, home is tainted with physical or emotional violence and fear; and

WHEREAS, on average, nearly 20 people per minute are physically abused by an intimate partner in the United States. This equates to more than 10 million women and men in one year. On a typical day, there are more than 20,000 phone calls placed to domestic violence hotlines nationwide; and

WHEREAS, the crime of domestic violence violates an individual's privacy and dignity, security, and humanity, due to the systematic use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological, and economic control and/or abuse including abuse to children; and

WHEREAS, emotional abuse is a very real and hurtful part of intimate partner violence (IPV) that leads to emotional harm. Emotional abuse is threatening a partner or a partner's loved ones or harming a partner's sense of self-worth. Examples are name-calling, intimidation, or not letting a partner see friends and family (isolation); and

WHEREAS, victims experiencing emotional abuse may have trauma symptoms including flashbacks, panic attacks, and trouble sleeping. Anger and stress that victims feel may lead to low self-esteem and depression and may make it difficult to continue employment or caretaking of others; and

WHEREAS, 1 in 15 children is exposed to intimate partner violence each year, a total of more than 5 million children, and 90% of these children are eyewitnesses to this violence. One in three children who witnessed domestic violence was also a child abuse victim. Children's immediate reaction to experiencing domestic violence include generalized anxiety, sleeplessness, aggression, difficulty concentrating, nightmares, high levels of activity, and separation anxiety; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence rarely ends at the time of separation from the abuser, in fact, the most dangerous period for a victim is when he or she chooses to leave the abusive relationship. Some of the reasons victims stay in an abusive relationship include: threats to harm or take away their children, economic dependency, lack of housing options, fear of being fatally harmed by the abuser, and many more valid reasons; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Woodland Joint Unified School District Board of Trustees does hereby proclaim the month of October as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month," and encourages all Californians to learn more about the extent of domestic violence, and work together with local domestic violence programs and assume the responsibility to make the message clear, both by word and by action.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 12th day of October 2023, by unanimous vote:


BOARD SECRETARY


BOARD PRESIDENT