

Shasta County Board of Supervisors

Proclamation

Dyslexia Awareness Month October 2017

WHEREAS, Shasta County recognizes that our children are our most valuable resource, and we must provide opportunities to learn and grow; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Health defines dyslexia as an inheritable and highly prevalent language-based disability affecting one in five individuals; and

WHEREAS, dyslexia, meaning “difficulty with words,” constitutes one of several distinct learning disabilities and is characterized by challenges in processing language when decoding oral and written words; and

WHEREAS, dyslexia deeply affects people’s ability to read, write, spell, and comprehend and may also affect people emotionally affecting their overall wellbeing; and

WHEREAS, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development states that poor literacy is a national health problem with ramifications that can last a lifetime; and

WHEREAS, children with dyslexia, especially those who are not identified and are reading below grade level at the end of third grade, often experience difficulties with depression, anxiety, poor self-image, and rarely catch up to their peers, resulting in underperformance in school and greater risk for failure and dropping out before completing high school; and

WHEREAS, with proper diagnosis, appropriate instruction, accommodations, access to assistive technologies, and support from families, educators, and friends, individuals with dyslexia can excel in school and employment; and

WHEREAS, Decoding Dyslexia, International Dyslexia Association and Learning Disabilities Association of America all work to inform and empower families, educators, and businesses with the most current research-based practices to promote meaningful literacy development with the goal of preparing individuals for a hopeful and productive future; and

WHEREAS, each person who struggles to learn is unique and deserves every opportunity to fulfill his or her potential for a happy and productive life; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to assist parents, educators, and individuals, the International Dyslexia Association has designated October as Dyslexia Awareness Month;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Shasta hereby proclaims October 2017 as *Dyslexia Awareness Month* in Shasta County and encourages all citizens to offer support to those affected by dyslexia and to recognize the dedicated efforts of those who are working to raise awareness and understanding in order to identify, treat, and prevent problems associated with dyslexia.

David A. Kehoe, Chairman

October 3, 2017

Date