



Orange County Schools

200 East King Street, Hillsborough, NC 27278

Phone: 919-732-8126 | Fax: 919-732-8120

www.orangecountyfirst.com

Orange County Board of Education Resolution to Recognize National Autism Awareness Month

Whereas, The Orange County School System is a center for diverse learning where all students are educated to their fullest potential and as a center of our community around which we come together in support of the education of all students; and

Whereas, autism is a developmental disorder typically diagnosed during the first three years of life, greatly impacting individuals of their ability to communicate and interact with others; and

Whereas, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Health Statistics Report concluded the prevalence of autism spectrum disorder has risen to 1 in every 54 children in the United States; and

Whereas, is reported to occur in all racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups, but is more than 4 times more common among boys than among girls; and

Whereas, early diagnosis and intervention programs lead to significantly improved outcomes for individuals with autism; and

Whereas, the Orange County School District employs qualified and caring individuals who educate and work daily to improve the lives of students with autism; and

Whereas, April 2020, is designated as National Autism Awareness Month to increase public awareness of the need to support individuals with autism and the family members, educators and other professionals who teach and care for individuals with autism.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Orange County Board of Education hereby:

1. Celebrates National Autism Awareness Month from April 1-30, 2020;
2. Recognizes and commends the family members of children with autism for their sacrifices and dedication in providing for the special needs of children with autism;
3. Emphasizes the need to begin early intervention services soon after a child is diagnosed with autism in an effort to improve potential outcomes for people with autism;
4. Acknowledges the teachers, paraprofessionals, and other educators who possess the desire, caring and skills necessary to teach, assist and respond to special needs students, including those with autism, and who work tirelessly to educate and provide high quality programming for special needs students enrolled in the Orange County School District.



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Adopted this the 6 th day of April 2020.

Will Atherton, Chair
Orange County Board of Education

Monique Felder, Ph.D., Superintendent
Orange County Schools