

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

23-274

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

March 3, 2020

To celebrate and recognize March 27, 2020 as International Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Day in the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, social emotional learning is the process through which children and adults require and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy towards others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions;

WHEREAS, people with strong social-emotional skills are better able to cope with everyday challenges and benefit academically, professionally, and socially;

WHEREAS, social emotional learning provides a foundation for positive, long-term effects on kids, adults, and communities by teaching students skills such as effective problem-solving, self-discipline, impulse control, emotion management, and more;

WHEREAS, studies have shown that students who participate in evidence-based social emotional learning programs show increased gain in academic achievement compared to those who do not participate in social and emotional learning programs;

WHEREAS, social emotional learning also results in positive behavior and healthier life choices overall, which stays with the students for life;

WHEREAS, in 2018, the Council of the District of Columbia passed the Student Fair Access to School Act, which jumpstarted the implementation of Social Emotional Learning in the District of Columbia;

WHEREAS, in February 2020, Councilmember Brandon T. Todd introduced the Social Emotional Learning Task Force Establishment Act of 2020, which would establish a task force to study issues relating to the best practices for the promotion of social emotional learning in schools, promote and expand social emotional learning, and make legislative recommendations to the Council;

WHEREAS, March 27, 2020 is International Social and Emotional Learning Day and the District will join hundreds of other jurisdictions and organizations in celebrating the importance of social emotional learning.

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “International Social Emotional Learning Day Ceremonial Recognition Resolution of 2020”.

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes the importance and effectiveness of social emotional learning and joins the rest of the world in celebrating its importance by declaring March 27, 2020 International Social Emotional Learning Day in the District of Columbia.

Sec. 3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.