

WHEREAS, Santa Clara County places a pre-eminent value on the education of its youth; and

WHEREAS, AchieveKids, a non-profit agency working closely with the County and individual school districts, has provided educational and mental health services for children and young adults with severe autism and other complex emotional and developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, AchieveKids has two special education schools, located in San Jose & Palo Alto, serving over 100 elementary & secondary education students from four Bay Area Counties; and

WHEREAS, Rick Van Mell has selflessly contributed many hours to AchieveKids, facilitating the creation of accounting and management systems that have contributed substantially to the strength and integrity of this outstanding agency; and

WHEREAS, in the midst of our economy's current difficulties, the volunteer efforts of Rick Van Mell have significantly enabled AchieveKids to provide the highest level of service to our youth.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara does hereby honor and commend

Rick Van Mell

for his significant contributions to AchieveKids, the youth in our local communities, and the mental health program of Santa Clara County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this Fifth Day of May, Two Thousand Nine by unanimous vote.

Liz Kniss, President
Board of Supervisors

Donald F. Gage
Supervisor, District One

George M. Shirakawa
Supervisor, District Two

Dave Cortese
Supervisor, District Three

Ken Yeager
Supervisor, District Four

Attest: Maria Marinos
Clerk, Board of Supervisors