

Resolution of Montecito Union School District
CALL TO CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION, 2019 RESOLUTION NO. 2019/20-05

WHEREAS, we believe it is important to advocate for climate action leading to climate restoration to curtail one of the greatest threats facing communities throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, we believe that climate change is not a partisan issue and that local, state, and national policies should be guided by the best available science; and

WHEREAS, there is a broad scientific consensus among climate scientists that human activities, contributing to increases in greenhouse gas emissions, are the dominant cause of climate change; and

WHEREAS, children represent a particularly vulnerable group because greenhouse gases emitted into the atmosphere will continue to accumulate over the coming decades and will profoundly impact our current students throughout their lives, as well as the lives of future generations; and

WHEREAS, the Montecito Union School District recognizes climate change as a generational justice and human rights issue; and

WHEREAS, the global impact, urgency, and magnitude of the challenge of addressing climate change calls for leadership in all sectors of society, all institutions and all elected leaders; and

WHEREAS, national and state elected leaders working in a bipartisan fashion to enact policies could substantially reduce human-made greenhouse gas emissions, thereby protecting our current and future students; and

WHEREAS, we believe that our graduates need to positively shape the world that is yet to be created environmentally and sustainably; and

WHEREAS, Montecito Union School District celebrates existing district sustainability initiatives such as:

1. Adopting the following Core Value: “We commit to modeling and promoting environmental stewardship”
2. Approving the following Strategic Initiative: “Initiative #3: Environmental Stewardship: Expand community-wide environmental literacy, advocacy, and leadership opportunities. Make decisions through a sustainability lens. Initiate programs to be carbon free and to minimize our resource consumption. Consistently reduce, reuse, recycle, and compost, striving for zero waste”
3. Including the goal of promoting efficiency and high environmental standards for all facility projects
4. Encouraging environmental K-6 education and climate science
5. Creating gardens on campus and utilizing it in “placed-based teaching”
6. Investigating the use of solar panels
7. Promoting a climate friendly food service including initiatives to increased plant-based and reduce meat-based menu planning and food waste reduction programs
8. Utilizing reusable utensils, plates, cups, and bottles whenever possible for students and staff members
9. Installing water-filling stations and eliminating the sale of single-use water bottles
10. Installing LED lighting and efficient HVAC systems to reduce energy consumption
11. Supporting school-based green/sustainability initiatives

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montecito Union School District of Education calls on Congress to take swift and effective action on climate change to protect current and future students.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education directs the district clerk to transmit official copies of this resolution to the following: the Superintendent of County Schools, the State Superintendent of Education and the California State Board of Education, the Congressional Climate Solutions Caucus, the California State School Board Association, the National School Board Association, our state and national representatives in Sacramento and Washington D.C., and the Schools for Climate Action campaign.

At a regular meeting of the Montecito Union School District Board of Education, on motion by___, seconded by_____, the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted this 15th day of October 2019.

ATTEST:

Kate Murphy, President
Montecito Union School District

Chad Chase, Clerk
Montecito Union School District

