



Harmony
Union School District

1935 Bohemian Highway
Occidental, California, 95465
Phone (707) 874-1205 • Fax (707) 874-1226
www.harmonyusd.org

Resolution No. 2017/18-5
April 19, 2018

**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT COMMITMENT TO CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION
APRIL 19, 2018**

WHEREAS, America is a great nation and has a proud heritage of addressing humanity's most pressing problems;

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

WHEREAS, we believe that climate change is not a partisan nor political 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 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 Sonoma County Office of Education has encouraged local districts to engage in non-partisan climate advocacy; and,

WHEREAS, in 2015 the California PTA has declared climate change a children's issue; and,

WHEREAS, the Harmony Union School District Board of Education 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 carbon pricing policies could substantially reduce or eliminate net human-made greenhouse gas emissions, thereby protecting our current and future students; and,

WHEREAS, we work to ensure that all Harmony Union School District students graduate as responsible stewards of the environment.



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NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Harmony Union School District Board of Education will participate in non-partisan advocacy and engagement with local, state, and federal jurisdictions advocating for reducing the impacts of greenhouse gas emissions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Harmony Union School District calls on Congress to take swift and effective action on climate change to protect current and future students.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Harmony Union School District celebrates existing district sustainability initiatives such as:

Reducing Waste	School lunch composting program, classroom recycling bins, farm-to-school program, cafeteria program that cooks food from scratch, re-usable dishware
Sustainable Food Systems	Meatless Monday, local food procurement program, production garden, farm-to-school program, use of organic foods when possible
Land Management	Timing of mowing, native plant inventory, preserving open space, watershed restoration and native plant, creating opportunities for public access
Environmental Education and Curriculum	PBL Coordinator assists teachers in design and implementing PBL lessons/units, middle school speaker series, "Nourishing Choices" Site Council/Charter Advisory Grant and guest teacher, environmental service learning projects and field trips both on and off campus, climate change teacher-in, nature journaling and monitoring projects, (student choice) advocacy letters
Community Engagement	Informational movie nights open to community members, nature trail interpretive signs, bulletin boards by garden, observation deck, and trail
Sustainable Design	Platinum LEED certified Salmon Creek Falls Building with living roof, rainwater catchment in the garden, straw bale greenhouse with passive heating, skylights, solar panels for onsite energy production, LED lighting, low-flow bathroom fixtures

These sustainability activities help Harmony Union School District achieve the following district goals:

- Students will be eco-literate citizens, who care about the environment and are empowered to make a difference,
- Students will exercise positive leadership, valuing and supporting one another as contributing citizens of our community and world, and
- Students will have the knowledge and confidence to make healthy nutritional choices, live physically active lives, and demonstrate social and emotional awareness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Harmony Union School District board of education directs the district Superintendent/Principal or staff member to transmit copies of this resolution to the following: the Superintendent of County Schools, all California Superintendents of Schools, the district's teacher's union, the district's classified union,



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the district's education foundation/PTA, the State Superintendent of Education, the Congressional Climate Solutions Caucus, the California State School Board Association, the National School Board Association, all California members of Congress, and the Schools for Climate Action campaign.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 19th day of April, 2018.

Steve Bair, Clerk of the Board