

SAN LORENZO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education

Regular Meeting of June 6, 2018

Agenda Item: 1.9.1
Subject: Second Reading and Consideration: Resolution 3565: Commitment to Climate Change Action
Prepared By: Samuel Medina, Board Member
Type of Action: Information and Action

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

During public comment at the May 1, 2018 Meeting of the Board, Colonial Acres Teacher, Claudia McDonagh and her students Calvin Olmos, Richford Hinkle, Allison Flores, Ashley Ramirez and Karina Sandoval spoke regarding climate change, and asked the Board to adopt a resolution calling for state and local change and government action to protect our students, families and our world.

The Governing Board recognizes that the children of today will bear the burden of the impacts of climate change, and also that our schools have a responsibility to equip them with opportunities to respond with creative and bold action. The Board also affirms that institutions and elected leaders at all levels have a responsibility to respond in constructive ways to the challenge of addressing climate change.

The Board solicited input on the draft resolution at their May 15, 2018 Meeting of the Board, and bring it forward for consideration today.

RECOMMENDATION:

I move to approve Resolution 3565: Commitment to Climate Change Action.

The Board President requests a roll call vote.

SAN LORENZO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Resolution 3565: COMMITMENT TO CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION

WHEREAS, San Lorenzo is a strong community that is proud to commit to actions against climate change;

WHEREAS, we believe it is important to advocate for climate action leading to climate restoration to end 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 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, climate change is a social justice, equity and human rights issue.

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, we work to ensure that all San Lorenzo Unified School students graduate as civically engaged advocates for equity and social justice in our changing community and world.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the San Lorenzo Unified School Board celebrates existing district sustainability initiatives such as:

- *Collaborating with existing municipal, county and state climate action plans. Supporting local, state and nation Walk and Roll to School programs.*
- *Continuing to increase amount of clean energy utilized; such as PG&E Solar project.*
- *Supporting sustainable facilities for both new construction and retrofits.*
- *Supporting community and district efforts.*
- **Evaluating measures that increase environmental sustainability, while remaining financially sustainable.**

LET IT THEREFORE BE RESOLVED THAT, the San Lorenzo Unified School Board shall ask the Superintendent to collaborate with the Health and Wellness Advisory Council to take action on climate change in manners that are within the purview of the District, such as:

- curricular and educational opportunities such as climate literacy, climate advocacy, and climate justice curriculum;
- facilities and operational priorities and projects including transportation, purchasing, maintenance, landscaping, and construction;

- climate-friendly food service: including locally sourced food and food waste reduction programs;
- *90% waste diversion by 2020*;
- engagement and non-partisan advocacy with local, state and federal jurisdictions for common sense climate policies that protect current and future students.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board 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 asks the Superintendent to share official copies of this resolution to the following: the Superintendent of County Schools, all student councils in our district, the district educators’ unions, all county Superintendents of Schools, 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 6th day of June, 2018 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

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| | President | Member |
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| | Vice President/Clerk | Member |
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| | | Member |