

**ALBANY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION 2017-18-22: ALBANY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT'S
COMMITMENT TO CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION, 2018**

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

WHEREAS, in 2016 the Albany City Council passed a resolution reflecting the importance of climate change and calling for the United States Congress to enact a revenue-neutral carbon tax;

WHEREAS, the AUSD Board of Education recognizes climate change as a generational justice and human rights issue; and,

WHEREAS, climate change is a social justice and equity issue. While climate change impacts *all* people and disproportionately impacts *all* young people and *all* future generations, it disproportionately affects people of color and people in poverty, thereby exacerbating existing inequities and limiting equality of opportunity which is a foundational aspiration for modern America;

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 emission policies, including carbon pricing policies, could substantially reduce and eventually

eliminate net human-made greenhouse gas emissions, thereby protecting our current and future students; and,

WHEREAS, we work to ensure that AUSD provides excellent public education that empowers all to achieve their fullest potential as productive citizens.

WHEREAS, AUSD celebrates existing district sustainability initiatives such as:

- a. Campus recycling programs
- b. Sponsorship of student environmental-focused clubs
- c. Energy-efficient buildings designed according to the guidelines of the Collaborative for High Performance Schools
- d. Teachers who are committed to teaching a rigorous, science-based curriculum around climate change

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the AUSD Board of Education calls on Congress to take swift and effective action on climate change, such as by passing a revenue-neutral carbon fee and dividend policy to protect current and future students, fully funding climate-change research, coordinating federal climate-change actions with those of California, and holding the Environmental Protection Agency accountable for protecting public health and welfare.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the AUSD Board of Education directs the district clerk to transmit official copies of this resolution to the following: the Superintendent of County Schools, the Albany Teacher's Association, all district PTA's, 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 by the Governing Board of the Albany Unified School District on this 22nd day of May 2018, by the following vote:

AYES: 5
NOES: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

Clerk of the Board of Trustees
Albany Unified School District
Alameda County, California

