

Resolution #15.MARCH.2017-2018

COMMITMENT TO CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION

March 7, 2018

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 should not be 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 in 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 today's children throughout their lives as well as the lives of future generations; and,

WHEREAS, the West Sonoma County Union High School District recognizes climate change as a human 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, local, 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, the West Sonoma County Union High School District works to ensure that all students graduate as knowledgeable citizens of the world.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the West Sonoma County Union High School District shall encourage local school districts to 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, The West Sonoma County Union High School District through the Superintendent of Schools will support the following initiatives:

- We will connect with existing municipal, county, and state climate action plans.
- We will support local Walk and Roll to School programs.
- We will purchase energy from clean energy providers.
- We will continue robust recycling programs.
- We will support efficient facilities for both new construction and retrofits (ex. insulation and lighting).

LET IT THEREFORE BE RESOLVED THAT, the West Sonoma County Union High School Board of Education shall direct the Superintendent to establish a Climate Change Committee to develop recommendations for taking action on climate change that are within the purview of the District, such as:

- curricular and educational opportunities such as climate literacy, climate advocacy, and climate justice curriculum and graduation requirements;
- facilities and operational priorities and projects;
- targets for reducing District greenhouse gas emissions; and,
- engagement and non-partisan advocacy with local, state and federal jurisdictions for science-based climate policies that protect current and future students

The Committee shall be open to participation by board members, administration, staff, parents, students, and community members, and shall provide quarterly reports of its activities to the Board of Trustees.

Adopted this 7th day of the month of March in 2018.

Motion made by: Trustee Noe

Second made by: Trustee Landry

List members voting "aye:" Trustee Noe, Trustee Landry, Trustee Walker, Trustee Bruhner, and Trustee Stecher

List members voting "no:" NONE

List members abstaining: NONE

List members not present: