



Santa Barbara Unified
Every child, every chance, every day.

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**Resolution of Santa Barbara Unified School District
CALL TO CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION, 2018
RESOLUTION NO. 2018/19-30**

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

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

WHEREAS, the Santa Barbara Unified School District 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 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; 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 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, Santa Barbara Unified School District celebrates existing district sustainability initiatives such as:

1. Encouraging environmental K-12 education and climate science
2. Creating edible gardens on campuses and utilizing them in placed-based teaching
3. Reducing our reliance on fossil fuels by installing solar panels across our district
4. Encouraging our staff to rely less on gas vehicles by installing electric vehicle charging stations across our district
5. Installing energy storage systems in conjunction with solar panels to increase our independence from the electrical grid in emergency situations
6. Promoting a climate friendly food service including initiatives to increased plant-based and reduce meat based menu planning and food waste reduction programs
7. Establishing a cross-district Sustainability Sub-Committee as part of the Wellness Committee
8. Installation of LED lighting to reduce energy consumption
9. Supporting school-based green/sustainability initiatives

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Barbara Unified School District Board of Education calls on Congress to take swift and effective action on climate change, such as enacting a revenue-neutral carbon fee and dividend, 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 Santa Barbara Unified School District Board of Education, on motion by _____, seconded by _____, the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted this 15th day of January 2019.

ATTEST:

Wendy Sims-Moten, President
Santa Barbara Unified School District

Jacqueline Reid, PhD, Clerk
Santa Barbara Unified School District