

**SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**RESOLUTION
CALL TO CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION 2019**

WHEREAS, we believe America is a great nation and has a 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 Monica-Malibu 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, the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District celebrates existing district sustainability initiatives such as:

1. Developing a District-wide Plan for Sustainability
2. Encouraging environmental K-12 education and climate science
3. Improving and developing learning gardens on elementary campuses
4. Participating in the Continuous Energy Improvement Program with SCE and the Gas Co.
5. Reducing our reliance on fossil fuels but installing solar panels where appropriate

6. Reducing our reliance on fossil fuels with fleet vehicle upgrades, offering bus passes to staff, exploring the installation of EV charging stations, creating bike parking etc..
7. Installation of LED lighting to reduce energy consumption
8. Partnering with the City of Santa Monica to evaluate opportunities for water use reduction
9. Introducing sustainable food service operations

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District 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 Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education directs the district clerk to transmit official copies of this resolution to the following: the Los Angeles County Office of Education Superintendent, 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.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education on this, the 7th day of March 2019 by the following vote:

AYES: _____
 NOES: _____
 ABSTAIN: _____
 ABSENT: _____

 Dr. Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein
 Board of Education President

 Dr. Ben Drati
 Superintendent