



# SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item 7.2

**Meeting Date:** April 4, 2019

**Subject:** Approve Resolution No. 3076: Resolution to Support Climate Action in Schools

- Information Item Only
- Approval on Consent Agenda
- Conference (for discussion only)
- Conference/First Reading (Action Anticipated: \_\_\_\_\_)
- Conference/Action
- Action
- Public Hearing

**Division:** Board Office

**Recommendation:** Approve Resolution No. 3076: Resolution to Support Climate Action in Schools.

**Background/Rationale:** April 22, 2019 has been designated as Earth Day where events will be held worldwide to demonstrate support for environmental protection and addressing issues of climate change. The Sacramento City Unified School District has taken significant measures to support green school practices, energy efficiency, healthy school nutrition programs, and waste diversion/reduction. The Resolution recognizes the importance of the continued implementation and expansion of district-wide efforts to address climate change.

**Financial Considerations:** None

**LCAP Goal(s):** College, Career and Life Ready Graduates; Family and Community Empowerment; Safe, Emotionally Healthy and Engaged Students; and Operational Excellence.

**Documents Attached:**

1. Resolution No. 3076

**Estimated Time of Presentation:** 5 minutes

**Submitted by:** Lisa Murawski, Board Member, Trustee Area 1

**Approved by:** Jorge A. Aguilar, Superintendent

**SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**RESOLUTION NO. 3076**

**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT CLIMATE ACTION IN SCHOOLS**

**WHEREAS**, April 22, 2019 is Earth Day and events will be held worldwide to demonstrate support for environmental protection and addressing issues of climate change;

**WHEREAS**, schools have the potential to make positive, tangible environmental change in the world while teaching students to be stewards of their communities, the earth, and its resources;

**WHEREAS**, implementing environmentally friendly practices within school buildings can increase the overall health and well-being of students and staff;

**WHEREAS**, schools expend considerable financial resources on energy, water, refuse services, and custodial and office supplies, and have a considerable opportunity through their purchasing power to improve both the environment and their financial bottom line;

**WHEREAS**, many options and choices exist for schools and their staff to use natural resources more efficiently; to reduce, reuse, and recycle; to produce more sustainably sourced lunches, and to purchase clean energy and environmentally preferable products and supplies to protect our environment;

**WHEREAS**, the California State PTA adopted a “Climate Change is a Children’s Issue” resolution in 2015 that urges school districts to serve as role models for practices that promote energy conservation, alternative energy sources, reducing dependency on automobile travel and encouraging sustainable practices;

**WHEREAS**, The State of California has legislated greenhouse gas reductions of 40% by 2030 (SB32) and an executive directive to reduce emissions 80% by 2050;

**WHEREAS**, The State of California is mandating that all new commercial buildings be Zero Net Energy (ZNE) and energy usage amongst existing buildings be halved by 2030;

**WHEREAS**, The Sacramento City Unified School District adopted the Grimes/Kennedy Green and Grid Neutral Model Schools Policy Initiative (BP 3511) in 1998;

**WHEREAS**, recognizing that the Sacramento City Unified School District has already taken significant measures in support of green school practices, energy efficiency, healthy school nutrition programs, and waste diversion/reduction;

**WHEREAS**, climate change is a generational justice and human rights issue;

**WHEREAS**, climate change is also 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;

**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 among all elected leaders; and

**WHEREAS**, although the State of California has taken a leadership role in climate policy, national elected leaders working together in a bipartisan fashion to enact carbon pricing policies could quickly and substantially reduce human-made greenhouse gas emissions nationwide.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Sacramento City Unified School District Board of Education calls upon 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; developing clean energy transmission plans that include safety nets and training for transitioning workers; investing in green infrastructure and technology commensurate with the urgency, scope, and scale outlined in the [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s Special Report, “Global Warming of 1.5 Degrees Celsius;”](#) 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**, in recognition that the Sacramento City Unified School District can be part of the climate change solution by reducing emissions and promoting environmental stewardship, the Board of Education is committed to continuing the following practices:

1. Continued implementation and expansion of the district-wide efforts to improve the energy efficiency of schools.
2. Assurance that new buildings and retrofits to existing buildings use environmentally sensitive building materials, as well as efficient use of energy, water, and other resources in accordance with the CalGREEN building code.
3. Pursuit of LEED O&M (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, Operation & Maintenance) certification for existing buildings.
4. Continued promotion of alternative modes of transportation for both District operations as well as staff and student transportation.
5. Continued development of programs and infrastructure to enhance biking and walking to school through the Safe Routes to School and other programs.
6. Continued implementation of a comprehensive waste reduction, recycling, and composting program at schools.
7. Sustainable landscaping practices that reduce water use and storm water runoff, minimize chemical inputs, and provide habitat for native flora and fauna.
8. Implementation of environmental curriculum that will integrate with the Next Generation Science Standards and California's Environmental Principles & Concepts to highlight the relationship between humans and the natural world including sustainability and environmental literacy.
9. Education and engagement of parents and the community about District sustainability efforts.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Sacramento City Unified School District Board of Education directs staff to transmit signed copies of this resolution to the following: all District bargaining partners, all District Parent-Teacher Organizations, all California members of Congress, the Congressional Climate Solutions Caucus, and the Schools for Climate Action campaign.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Sacramento City Unified School District Board of Education on this 4th day of April, 2019, by the following vote:

AYES: \_\_\_\_\_  
NOES: \_\_\_\_\_  
ABSTAIN: \_\_\_\_\_  
ABSENT: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTESTED TO:

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Jessie Ryan  
President of the Board of Education

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Jorge A. Aguilar  
Secretary of the Board of Education