

WHEREAS, climate change predominantly fueled by burning fossil fuels has resulted in unprecedented natural disasters, devastating storms, historic droughts, wildfires, and extreme heat which may affect San Diego Unified students' physical and mental health; and

WHEREAS, in August and September 2020, California recorded five of the six biggest wildfires in the state in 90 years; and

WHEREAS, fracking releases high, dangerous amounts of air pollution that have been connected to the cause of severe headaches, childhood leukemia, asthma symptoms, birth defects, and cardiac problems; and

WHEREAS, children are more vulnerable to the diseases caused by bad air quality because they spend more time outside, have immature/developing lungs, and breathe in more per body weight; and

WHEREAS, 92 percent of people living near fracking sites in California are Black, Indigenous, and people of color; and

WHEREAS, San Diego Unified students who reside in low-income communities and communities of color, including Barrio Logan, City Heights, and Southeast San Diego, are disproportionately affected by climate change and environmental impacts, including significantly worse air pollution causing residents to develop asthma at more than twice the national average, heat island effect, and elevated infectious diseases; and

WHEREAS, fracking and climate change widen the disparities between children's physical and mental health as a result of racism and poverty; and

WHEREAS, the California PTA passed a resolution that recognized the issues that climate change presents to children's health and urges action around averting the effects of the climate crisis; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, the San Diego Unified Board of Education acknowledged the threat climate change poses to youth's health and adopted a resolution in support of the Parent Teachers Association's initiative to tackle climate change; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, the San Diego School Unified District created a plan to transition to 100 percent renewable energy by 2035 in order to mitigate the effects of climate change; and

WHEREAS, the San Diego School Unified District currently has a climate action plan that reviews the ways the district can make a positive impact on climate change and how it can become an environmental leader in San Diego County; and

WHEREAS, the San Diego Unified School District has shown support of student leadership in fighting for a fossil fuel free future; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the San Diego Unified School District urges Governor Newsom to cease issuing new oil permits and to develop a more comprehensive plan for phasing out fracking in California.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the San Diego Unified School District calls on Governor Newsom to keep his previous promises about transitioning California away from fossil fuels and existing oil production.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the San Diego Unified School District will continue to recognize climate change and climate justice as issues of importance to the San Diego community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the San Diego Unified School district will continue to transition to renewable energy sources with the urgency called for by the climate crisis.

Approved and adopted by the Board of Education of the San Diego Unified School District, San Diego, California, at a public meeting thereof duly called and held this 26th Day of January 2021.

President

Vice President

Member

Member

Member

Student Board Member

LEGALITY AND FORM APPROVED

ANDRA M. GREENE, General Counsel
San Diego Unified School District

Approved in public meeting of the Board of Education of
the San Diego Unified School District on _____

Marty Stultz, Board Action Officer, Board of Education