



MT. DIABLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD
RESOLUTION 23/24-59
In Recognition of Earth Day and a Call to Action on Climate Change

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, ninety-seven percent of scientists agree that climate change is real and human induced; and

WHEREAS, global emissions of greenhouse gases needed to begin to fall by 7.6 percent each year beginning in 2020 in order to meet the most ambitious goals of the Paris Agreement to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; and

WHEREAS, marginalized communities worldwide, such as people of color, immigrants, indigenous communities, low-income people, those with disabilities, and homeless people, are already disproportionately affected by climate change; and

WHEREAS, California has been profoundly affected by several natural disasters made more severe by climate change, including droughts, record-breaking wildfires, flooding, and coastal sea rise with impacts on coastal nearshore ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, climate change impacts human health, making illnesses ranging from allergies to heart and lung diseases, kidney problems, pregnancy complications, and skin cancer worse; and

WHEREAS we in Mt. Diablo Unified School District take to heart, with great conviction, our opportunity to educate and prepare students for the challenges of the modern world, and as an organization, to celebrate, advance, and recommit to these district sustainability initiatives:

- Encouragement of environmental K-12 education and climate science
- Creation of edible gardens on campuses and utilizing them in place-based teaching
- Installation of solar panels across our district, generating eleven megawatts of clean energy annually
- Improvement of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems by replacing aged and inefficient heating/ventilating equipment with high efficiency heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems
- Installation of modern LED lighting to broadly reduce energy consumption
- District-wide installation of water filters to support clean water and installation of low flow water fixtures and water filtration systems (bottle fillers)
- Utilization of health-conscious pesticide and chemical products in

groundskeeping processes to reduce exposure to pesticides, herbicides and fungicides

- Implementation of drought-tolerant landscapes
- Use of environmentally sensitive building materials in new buildings and retrofits to existing buildings, as well as efficient use of energy, water, and other resources in accordance with the CalGREEN building code
- Implementation of a comprehensive waste reduction, recycling, and composting program at schools, including the encouragement of on-site composting and the reduction of plastic usage
- Provision of equitable access to nature and natural systems within the school grounds to take advantage of the cognitive, psychological and physiological benefits of nature on children's socio-emotional, academic and physical well-being
- Transition of district systems and transportation fleet to 100% electric or alternative and renewable energy sources
- Creation of ecological schoolyards that enrich traditional lessons in every discipline with hands-on learning resources and living systems whenever possible
- Encouragement of the integration of all the items within this resolution into school culture and curriculum, allowing each school campus to become a living, working model of climate change education; and

WHEREAS district leaders have the ability to approve infrastructure investments that advance sustainability and alternative energy, and the ability to approve policies that meet or exceed international emission regulatory standards,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mt. Diablo Unified School District Board of Education hereby recognizes April 22, 2024 as Earth Day reaffirming our commitment to be a part of climate change solutions and to educate our students about climate change; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mt. Diablo Unified School District Board of Education calls on all elected leaders to take expedient and bold action on climate change to protect and preserve current and future generations and that this resolution be distributed to all the schools within the district.

AYES: NOES: ABSENCES: ABSTENTIONS:

Erin McFerrin, Board President

Linda Mayo, Board Vice President

Cherise Khaund, Board Member

Debra Mason, Board Member

Keisha Nzewi, Board Member

Dr. Adam Clark, Superintendent

Resolution 23/24-59

Adopted at the meeting of the MDUSD Governing Board of Education on 4/10/2024
