

# SONOMA COUNTY JUNIOR COLLEGE DISTRICT

## Resolution in Support of Climate Change Initiatives

RESOLUTION NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, the global impact, urgency, and magnitude of the challenge of addressing climate change calls for leadership in all sectors of society, including educational institutions because policies should be guided by the best available science and the education of District students in climate science and climate issues will help them to make informed decisions; and

WHEREAS, climate change and environmentally sustainable practices are important initiatives affecting our students, employees, and community members and we can positively impact sustainability and climate change; and

WHEREAS, climate change is a social justice and equity issue that 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 greenhouse gases emitted into the atmosphere will continue to accumulate over the coming decades profoundly impacting our current students throughout their lives, and disproportionately impacting all future generations; and

WHEREAS, we support formalizing our commitment to Strategic Plan Goal E: Establish a Strong Culture of Sustainability and we commend current and ongoing Districtwide sustainability initiatives including;

- Encouraging environmental education and climate science;
- Reducing utility costs and reliance on fossil fuels by investing in renewable energy sources;
- Continuing paper reduction initiatives;
- Promoting climate friendly food service initiatives which include the reduction of single-use plastics;
- Upgrading exterior and interior lighting on all campuses with energy-efficient LED lights;
- Participating with local public agencies to provide free and reduced-fare transportation alternatives;
- District support of campus and city wide complete streets and bicycle infrastructure upgrades;
- Supporting student sustainability initiatives.

RESOLVED that the Sonoma County Junior College District Board of Trustees will support initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase environmental sustainability and call on the District's Sustainability Committee to write and present an ambitious "Climate Action Plan" which will outline the steps required for District carbon neutrality;

RESOLVED, that the Sonoma County Junior College District Board of Trustees support the faculty, students, Administrators, staff, and classified staff of Santa Rosa Junior College who address climate science and climate change issues;

RESOLVED, that the Sonoma County Junior College District Board of Trustees calls on the American Association of Community Colleges Board, the Chancellor's Office for California Community Colleges, the Community College League of California, the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors, the Cities of Santa Rosa, Windsor and Petaluma, State Senate and Assembly Representatives, and U.S. Congressional Representatives to create and support policies which will reduce the impact of climate change on our current and future students and that the Sonoma County Junior College District Board of Trustees directs transmission of official copies of this resolution to the offices of the governmental representatives and organizations named above.

Votes supporting the foregoing resolution were passed by the following Santa Rosa Junior College Constituent Groups:

- Sustainability Committee \_\_\_\_\_
- Faculty Academic Senate \_\_\_\_\_
- Student Government Assembly \_\_\_\_\_
- Classified Senate \_\_\_\_\_
- Board Of Trustees \_\_\_\_\_
- All Faculty Association \_\_\_\_\_
- Service Employees International Union \_\_\_\_\_

This Resolution is also supported by

Frank Chong, President of Santa Rosa Junior College \_\_\_\_\_

The foregoing resolution was introduced by Trustee \_\_\_\_\_, who moved its adoption, seconded by Trustee \_\_\_\_\_, and adopted on a roll call vote April \_\_\_\_, 2020, by the following vote:

Student Trustee – Daniel Pablo\*

Trustee Dorothy Battenfeld

Trustee Jordan Burns

Trustee Don Edgar

Trustee Maggie Fishman

Trustee Jeff Kunde

Trustee W. Terry Lindley

Trustee Mariana Martinez

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent/Abstaining:

\*Student Trustee – Advisory Vote

Secretary to the Board of Trustees