

Adopted by the Board of Education, As Amended, at its Regular Meeting of March 14, 2006

63-14SO3 - Establishing a Planning Process to Study and Develop Long-Range Recommendations Related to Student Enrollment, Recruitment and Retention

WHEREAS: Student enrollment in the San Francisco Unified School District has declined by 800-1,000 students annually for the past five years. Enrollment declines are projected to continue in coming years; and

WHEREAS: The Board of Education has developed Policy 2500 to govern the process for school closures. The district has engaged in a process to determine school closures in each of the past two years, on both occasions resulting in the closure of schools and/or the merger of school programs. In the course of these efforts, several notable concerns have been raised by stakeholders, including a perceived need for the following:

- A long-range planning to guide decision-making,
- A fair and understandable process for school closure, and
- Stakeholder and community input into the process; and

WHEREAS: The Board agrees that these issues should be addressed going forward. Several Commissioners have introduced a separate measure to the Board that speaks to these concerns; and

WHEREAS: The Board recognizes that there is a complex set of issues that need to be addressed in a planning process that is focused on student enrollment, including but not limited to district-wide demographics, school-level demographics, student assignment methodology, outreach and recruitment, potential City agency partnerships, programs and services, and facilities utilization; and

WHEREAS: The Mayor has generously expressed the support of his offices and departments to a planning effort focused on declining enrollment. The Board is committed to deepening SFUSD's partnership with the City; and

WHEREAS: The Superintendent and staff have explored options around long-range planning and have developed an outline for long-range planning. That outline was presented to the Board of Education at a Committee of the Whole meeting on March 7, 2006.

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THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education urges the Superintendent to initiate a planning process focused on the enrollment, recruitment, and retention of students in the San Francisco Unified School District. The planning process will address how policies and practices around student enrollment can support the achievement of the following goals:

- Closing the achievement gap
- Providing all students equitable access to high-quality educational services in integrated learning environments; and
- Sustaining and building student enrollment to strengthen the District's fiscal condition.

The planning process will include an analysis of current conditions related to student enrollment, a robust community engagement process, and the development of a long-range action plan for approval by the Board of Education; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That the planning process includes collaboration with the Mayor's office and key City agencies. District staff will explore partnerships with other entities whose expertise complements the district's core competencies, in order to ensure a robust planning process; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Board establishes an ad-hoc committee of the Board on student enrollment, recruitment and retention. The Committee will be charged with monitoring the progress of the planning process. Committee membership will include three Board members, as determined by the Board President. Student delegates may request participation as well; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board establishes a Community Advisory Committee on Student Enrollment, Recruitment and Retention (CACSERR). **All members of this committee shall be residents of the City and County of San Francisco.**

The charge of the CACSERR shall be to review the analysis of current conditions prepared by staff and findings from the community engagement process, advise the Board and staff on the community engagement process, and provide comments and/or recommendations to the Board on the content of the long-range action plan developed by staff; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the CACSERR shall have the following membership, totaling 8 people:

1. Two (2) members with expertise in the design and implementation of high quality educational programs and educational reform strategies,
2. One (1) member with expertise in outreach to diverse families,
3. One (1) member with expertise in community engagement strategies,
4. One (1) member with expertise in demographic planning and analysis,
5. One (1) member with expertise in school facilities design and use,
6. One (1) member with expertise in school finance, and
7. One (1) member representing the voice of youth.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board invites any individuals interested in serving on the CACSERR to submit a letter of interest to the President of the Board of Education. Letters of interest will be accepted until ~~April 3, 2006~~ **Friday, April 14, 2006**. The Board's ad-hoc committee on student enrollment will, in collaboration with the Superintendent, discuss interested candidates and forward to the full Board a list of candidates for approval; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the CACSERR shall operate independently and establish its own leadership. The Superintendent will identify a staff liaison to the committee, whose responsibility will be to provide regular reports to the committee about the planning process and coordinate responses to any requests from the CACSERR for information and presentations; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board urges staff to complete an analysis of current conditions and an initial community engagement effort, in consultation with the CACSERR, in time for the Board to review and provide further direction at or before the last regular Board meeting in June 2006. The Board anticipates that staff will prepare a long-range action plan by the end of September 2006, to be reviewed by the Board and the public, with the expectation that any school closure decisions made during the 2006-2007 school year will be informed by the action plan. The Board further understands that some policy decisions, including but not limited to any changes in the process of student assignment, may need to be made prior to the completion of the long-range action plan.