

Subject: Resolution No.

**Supporting a New Day for Learning in the San Francisco Unified School District**

- Commissioner Rachel Norton

**WHEREAS:** The San Francisco Unified School District has committed to graduating *every* student ready for college or career; and

**WHEREAS:** In San Francisco there are unacceptably high dropout rates and low rates of academic achievement among African American, Latino and Pacific Islander students as compared to their White and Asian counterparts; and

**WHEREAS:** City departments such as the Mayor's Office, the Department of Children, Youth, and their Families and Communities of Opportunity, as well as community organizations like the San Francisco School Alliance are collaborating closely with SFUSD to support the goal of giving every child in San Francisco a rigorous and high quality education and preparing students for the 21st century economy; and

**WHEREAS:** San Francisco has the honor of being one of two cities in the United States to receive a New Day for Learning grant from the C.S. Mott Foundation; and

**WHEREAS:** The New Day for Learning calls on the American educational system to "profoundly change our thinking and policies about when, where and how children learn and develop," recognizing that far too many young people are disengaged from learning and lack basic skills and knowledge required for work and life in the 21st century; and

**WHEREAS:** The New Day for Learning promotes an approach to education that:

- embeds student interests into their education and connects core academics to real-world experiences;
- calls on the district and the City to incorporate before- and after-school and summer experiences into their vision of student learning, working toward the idea of a seamless day and a community school;
- requires collaboration among all sectors of the community, including community-based organizations, business leaders, parents, students, civic and municipal leaders and many others, and
- expands the definition of student success to include applied skills such as teamwork, critical thinking and problem solving;
- re-envision schools as centers of their community, able to address the holistic needs of children and families; and

**WHEREAS:** The New Day for Learning sees schools as just one of the places in the community where learning and student success can occur, and emphasizes strategies that incorporate the arts, technology, service learning, and apprenticeships to provide students with opportunities to enrich their education and connect to the adult world; and

**WHEREAS:** The mission of the New Day for Learning is to “build a network of Community schools with deep, focused partnerships based on shared outcomes for student success; and

**WHEREAS:** The implementation of New Day for Learning and Community Schools will enhance funding opportunities for the school district; and

**WHEREAS:** The New Day for Learning is aligned with the SFUSD Strategic Plan and will assist in implementing the plan; and will bridge the divides and break down the silos that currently mark San Francisco's education and youth services; and

**WHEREAS:** The SFUSD, the New Day for Learning Governance Team and Initiative Director have selected early-adopter schools-and have begun the work of realizing the New Day for Learning philosophy and educational strategies at those early-adopter schools.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Board of Education of the San Francisco Unified School District requests that the Superintendent and the Deputy Superintendent for Innovation, Equity and Social Justice to facilitate ongoing and regular communication and problem solving among the following key departments: Academic & Professional Development, LEAD, Reform & Accountability and Student Support Services, and the New Day for Learning ; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the Board requests that the Superintendent evaluate the resources necessary to meet the goals and objectives of this initiative and the obligations of the grant, and develop an appropriate plan to address these needs, so that the District can realize the full benefits of this unique opportunity; and

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED:** That the New Day for Learning team capture every opportunity to leverage outside resources to support the Community Schools vision; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the New Day for Learning propose a plan that would promote full-service Community Schools and partnerships better aligned with the educational goals of the District; and

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED:** The Board of Education requests quarterly reports on the progress of the New Day for Learning Grant from the Initiative Director, the SFUSD leadership, and early-adopter schools.