

BOARD OF EDUCATION
PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

RESOLUTION No. 1,833

SUPPORT FOR EQUALIZATION FUNDING FOR CALIFORNIA

WHEREAS, the Pasadena Unified School District believes all students in California deserve equal access to a quality education; and

WHEREAS, on a dollar per student basis, there is great disparity in funding among California's public school districts, a disparity that has cost local districts millions of dollars per year for over three decades; and

WHEREAS, in Los Angeles County alone, the highest funded district receives more than \$790 per student more than the lowest funded district, a difference of almost \$24,000 per classroom; and

WHEREAS, the lack of equitable state funding means that students in lower funded districts have significantly less access to classes, full-time instructors, basic skills and enrichment programs, adequately maintained facilities, instructional materials, current technology, technical programs, counselors and other support staff for an increasingly diverse student population; and

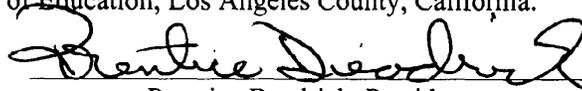
WHEREAS, all of California's school districts are required to comply with the same state and federal mandates, but the resources to comply with these and other state requirements vary widely district by district; and

WHEREAS, funding all school district programs and services on an equal per student basis would reduce the disparity in funding, increase equal access to education and boost the potential for student success throughout the state; and

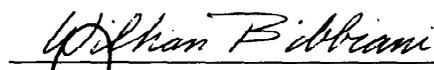
WHEREAS, the Governor's 2006-2007 budget proposal would fund equalization at the level of \$300,000,000, reducing a significant portion of the disparity among school districts;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Governing Board of the Pasadena Unified School District support the Governor's budget proposal to fund equalization, urges the governor and the legislature to include at least \$300,000,000 in the upcoming state education budget to help eliminate the disparity in public school base revenue, and commits to actively advocate on behalf of comparable and equitable funding for all of the state's public school districts.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 23rd day of May, 2006, at the regular meeting of the Pasadena Unified School District Board of Education, Los Angeles County, California.


Prentice Dadrick, President

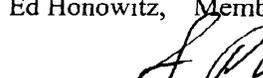

Peter M. Soelter, Vice President


William Bibbiani, Member


Esteban Lizardo, Member


Mike Babcock, Member


Ed Honowitz, Member


Scott Phelps, Member



Legislative *Short List* for 2004-05

Fund education at national median

1. Protect Proposition 98 funding
 - Prevent *erosion* of qualifying Proposition 98
 - Guarantee payment of *all* deferred funds – mandated cost deferrals
 - Prevent redefinition of qualifying Proposition 98 programs
2. Preserve local school boards decisions-making authority
 - Provide flexibility in allowing districts to contract with outside sources
 - Provide CSR (class size reduction) flexibility in staffing ratios
 - Block granting of categorical funds – provide increased flexibility in fund transfers
3. Exempt K-12 education from provisions of SB2/ Prop. 72 (if passed)
4. Continue to ensure that accountability systems are reliable and efficient; streamline assessment measures to increase instruction time
5. Maintain fiscal support for full equalization.
6. Ensure *all* federal special education funding is passed through to local special education programs.
7. Fund the total educational program – i.e. visual and performing arts, athletics, vocational/career education

The Five Star Education Coalition is a coalition of five school districts: Burbank, Glendale, La Canada, Pasadena, South Pasadena, representing more than 75,000 students. They meet monthly working in partnership with elected officials, business, and community leaders to endorse and improve educational programs for the students they serve.