San Leandro Unified School District
Resolution 21-15
Opposing State Standardized Testing for the 2020-21 School Year

WHEREAS, each year, California students take several statewide tests as part of the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP), the state's system of mandated and optional assessments.

WHEREAS, CAASPP currently includes three types of mandated tests: Smarter Balanced Assessments, California Alternate Assessments, and California Science Assessments.

WHEREAS, the Smarter Balanced Assessments are in English Language Arts and Mathematics for grades 3-8, 11 along with 12th graders who will need to take the California Science Assessment.

WHEREAS, San Leandro Unified School District also has students who take the English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC), and current federal laws require states to administer these tests to at least 95% of eligible students.

WHEREAS, while state testing was suspended for the 2019-20 school year, districts are expected to administer state tests this school year.

WHEREAS, the state has submitted a waiver to the federal government, but neither organization has yet to approve suspending testing for the 2020-21 school year.

WHEREAS, while the district understands that testing is mandated by the state and federal government, the district is preparing staff and the necessary technology to complete the tests.

WHEREAS, district staff and leadership are concerned that providing high-stakes standardized state assessments during this very challenging school year will increase inequitable outcomes and detrimental consequences on San Leandro Unified School District students and families.

WHEREAS, specific concerns include the following: the demands on students, families, and staff to implement a secure test in an at-home environment; the utility and validity of the data when our educational environment is so different than when students typically take these exams; and the impact on English Learners and other students for whom the CAASPP may inform educational decisions.

WHEREAS, the process of remote testing from student homes will most likely increase the current heightened levels of anxiety that both students and parents/guardians will have to experience.

WHEREAS, San Leandro Unified School District is committed to supporting the social-emotional well-being of our students and believes action needs to be taken to mitigate any negative impact of state testing.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that San Leandro Unified School District opposes state standardized testing for the 2020-21 school year.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, San Leandro Unified School District will also take a proactive stance to help our community understand the concerns with state testing, including collaborating with other local Boards of Education at the policy level to continue to pursue the waiver, communicating and conducting outreach with families about the assessment and their rights to opt-out, and reminding our community that we are still in the middle of a pandemic and thus our main priority is the physical and social-emotional health of our students.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-15 PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Board of the San Leandro Unified School District on the 9th day of March, 2021.

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Evelyn González, Board President	Mike McLaughlin, Ed.D., Superintendent