SAN LEANDRO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Resolution No. 21-21

Supporting Tobacco-Free and Vaping-Free Schools and Community

WHEREAS, San Leandro Unified School District (SLUSD) is dedicated to providing a healthy environment for all students and staff to ensure that the needs of the whole child are met including students' physical, behavioral, social and emotional health and well- being,

WHEREAS, SLUSD, through our mission statement, is committed to educating students to achieve academic excellence in order to become confident, collaborative, and engaged citizens in a community rich in heritage and diverse in culture, where we value our traditions and embrace innovation,

WHEREAS, SLUSD educators and health professionals recognize the importance of education that supports the prevention of tobacco use in order to help prevent tobacco- related illnesses, and understand the best way to prevent tobacco-related illnesses is to keep youth from starting to smoke or use tobacco products; and

WHEREAS, SLUSD works with Alameda County Office of Education and other partnering public agencies to promote good health by discouraging tobacco use through the participation of SLUSD students in local Tobacco Use Prevention Education (TUPE) efforts. We understand the importance of tobacco education to help prevent tobacco-related illnesses, knowing the best way to prevent tobacco-related illnesses is to keep youth from starting to use tobacco use in the first place; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Surgeon General, e-cigarettes and other electronic nicotine devices (ENDS) contain nicotine, which is a highly addictive drug that has immediate biochemical effects on the brain and body, alters adolescent brain development and is toxic in high doses; and

WHEREAS, the marketing by the tobacco industry has now targeted young people and vulnerable communities. Tobacco products such as E-cigarettes and other ENDS are available in more than 7000 fruit and candy flavor products that mask the harsh taste and odor of tobacco and use cartoons and celebrities, which are highly appealing to youth, in their advertising; and

WHEREAS, it is known that tobacco companies and retailers profit from the research-proven fact that the earlier a person starts to use tobacco, the harder it will become for them to quit; and

WHEREAS, Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and other analyses have found that tobacco products such as e-cigarettes and other ENDS contain a number of toxins, carcinogens and components suspected of being harmful to humans and has acknowledged that consumers of e-cigarette products currently have no way of knowing whether e-cigarettes and other ENDS are safe or how much nicotine or other potentially harmful chemicals are being inhaled; and

WHEREAS, e-cigarettes and other ENDS were found to be harmful to youth and other individuals by the United States Court of Appeals; and the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Lung Association, and the American Heart Association support the regulation of e-cigarettes and other ENDS; and

WHEREAS, according to SLUSD's 2017-2018 California Healthy Kids Survey results for high school students, 57% of 11th graders and 47% of 9th graders believe it is very easy or fairly easy to obtain cigarettes; 79% of 11th graders and 59% of 9th graders believe it is very easy or fairly easy to obtain e-cigarettes or vaping devices; and 30% of SLUSD 11th graders and

9% of 9th graders admit they have tried e-cigarettes or other vaping devices; and 42% of 11th graders and 46% of 9th graders perceive great harm in using e-cigs regularly compared to cigarettes; and

WHEREAS, according to SLUSD's 2017-2018 California Healthy Kids Survey results for middle school students, 13% of 7th graders believe it is very easy or fairly easy to obtain cigarettes; specifically, 13% believe it is very easy or fairly easy to obtain e-cigarettes or vaping devices; and 2% admit they have tried e-cigarettes or other vaping devices; and

WHEREAS, the San Leandro Unified School District recognizes that ensuring the health of youth is a community-wide commitment and continues to partner with to create and maintain a safe and healthy community for all; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the San Leandro Unified School District Board of Trustees and the San Leandro Unified School District, in accordance with California Education Code 48901 , will take all practical and necessary steps to discourage

students from smoking including forbidding the use of tobacco products and vaping devices on campuses and during any school-related activities, and by providing student education and family information on the dangers of tobacco and vaping use; and

FURTHERMORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the San Leandro Unified School District Board of Trustees and the San Leandro Unified School District call on our entire San Leandro community to join in support of ensuring student health by refraining from the marketing and sales of tobacco, flavored tobacco, and vaping products to young people throughout the City of San Leandro; and

LASTLY, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the San Leandro Unified School District Board of Trustees and the San Leandro Unified School District strongly support any and all civic, social service, and government agencies in their legislative efforts and campaigns that protect the health of an entire generation by preventing them from becoming exposed, and potentially addicted to nicotine or other harmful substances in tobacco and vaping products.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, June 8, 2021at a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

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Vice-President, Board of Trustees San Leandro Unified School District Alameda County, State of California