

## RESOLUTION 2017-113

### RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN PABLO IN SUPPORT OF THE WEST CONTRA COSTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (WCCUSD) ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM AND SERRA SCHOOL IN RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA

WHEREAS, the FY 2015-17 City Council Adopted Priority Workplan (FINAL WORKPLAN) is a culmination of previous goal-setting and strategic planning sessions involving previous and current City Council, City Manager, Executive Leadership Group members, and shall be annually updated to reflect current City Council priorities and policy areas, effective October 1, 2016;

WHEREAS, *WCCUSD Adult Education Program at Serra School in Richmond* is an adopted policy adopted by the City Council on May 15, 2017 by majority vote contained in the FY 2015-17 Council Priority Workplan Update, effective October 1, 2016;

WHEREAS, the WCCUSD Adult Education provides free or low cost Vocational Training, High School Diploma, GED and English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, all of which help San Pablo residents prepare to enter new jobs or qualify for better jobs;

WHEREAS, the education and training provided by WCCUSD Adult Education Program is vital to the economic health of the City of San Pablo;

WHEREAS, the Serra School Campus, located in Richmond, CA, where Vocational Training, High School Diploma, GED and English as a Second Language (ESL) are all offered at one centrally located site is a particularly valuable resource for the residents of San Pablo, being that it is conveniently located near the Richmond/San Pablo border;

WHEREAS, adult school instruction is most needed in areas where there are many residents who have less than a high school diploma, are low income, or need to learn English;

WHEREAS, according to the most recent U.S. Census data figures, only 30.4 % of City of San Pablo residents have earned a high school diploma;

WHEREAS, the median household income in the City of San Pablo, according to the last U.S. Census data, is \$43,872, which is well below the national median income of \$55,775, and the California state median income of \$64,500;

WHEREAS, the poverty rate in the City of San Pablo is 18.3%;

WHEREAS, according to the last U.S. Census, 45.1% of the population of the City of San Pablo is a foreign born population, and a significant immigrant population in San Pablo takes ESL Classes at the Serra Adult School Center;

WHEREAS, parents are their children's first teachers, and children succeed in school when their parents are involved in their learning, understand the school system, and are able to advocate for their children with the school;

WHEREAS, the City of San Pablo is committed to the Full Service Community Schools model, which includes adult education for parents and community members to increase community involvement in the schools;

WHEREAS, immigrant parents often need to acquire English language skills and life skills in order to help their children with school work, understand the U.S. school system and become effective advocates for their children;

WHEREAS, immigrant parents in the City of San Pablo and surrounding cities are able to take Family Literacy classes at the Serra Adult Center site which help parents support their children's education while they increase their own literacy;

WHEREAS, WCCUSD plans to move adult education classes out of the Serra Adult Center in order to establish an elementary school at the site;

WHEREAS, the elementary school was originally proposed for another site, and there are other sites where the elementary school could be established by the WCCUSD;

WHEREAS, the proposed new site for the adult education classes at Serra Adult Center is Alvarado Adult School, which is at the furthest southern edge of WCCUSD boundaries;

WHEREAS, a significant number of current ESL students at the Serra Adult Center live in the Central Richmond, San Pablo or points north;

WHEREAS, a recent survey of ESL students at Serra Adult Center indicated that only 8% would be able to attend classes at Alvarado Adult School, and the number that could attend other proposed sites was under 30%.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the City Council of the City of San Pablo authorizes the following, as follows:

1. Recognizes that Serra Adult School site is an important resource for the residents of San Pablo; and
2. Declares support for keeping adult school classes at the Serra Adult School site; and
3. Requests that WCCUSD maintain Serra Adult School as an adult school site.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the foregoing recitations are true and correct, and are included herein by reference as findings.

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ADOPTED this 5<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2017, by the following vote:

AYES:	COUNCILMEMBERS:	Kinney, Morris, Calloway and Valdez
NOES:	COUNCILMEMBERS:	None
ABSENT:	COUNCILMEMBERS:	Cruz
ABSTAIN:	COUNCILMEMBERS:	None

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

/s/ Ted J. Denney  
Ted J. Denney, City Clerk

/s/ Cecilia Valdez  
Cecilia Valdez, Mayor