

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of Support for \_\_\_\_\_ )  
Reproductive Rights \_\_\_\_\_ )

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the reproductive rights movement is facing the most aggressive attacks to safe and legal access to abortions that it has since 1973, with serious implications for communities across the country; and

**WHEREAS**, the Supreme Court of the United States acknowledged in its 1973 landmark decision *Roe vs. Wade* that the ability to make a private medical decision impacting one's own reproductive health is a Constitutionally protected right; and

**WHEREAS**, the current Supreme Court reportedly plans to overturn *Roe v. Wade* and deny millions of American women the right to safe, legal and accessible abortion; and

**WHEREAS**, the impact of restrictions, bans, and attacks on reproductive freedom disproportionately impact populations that already face barriers to accessing care— communities of color, people with low incomes, people who are unsheltered, people who identify as LGBT, immigrants, and young people; and

**WHEREAS**, access to quality information and education about young people's sexual health is a critical step toward addressing disparities caused by historical inequities due to race, gender, and sexual identity which have been magnified by structural barriers; and

**WHEREAS**, the California Healthy Youth Act requires California public schools, including charter schools, to provide comprehensive sexual health education that includes information about the safety and effectiveness of all FDA-approved methods of preventing pregnancy and transmission of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (including condoms, contraceptives, and antiretroviral treatment) and abstinence, as well as information about HIV, pregnancy, sexual harassment, sexual assault, healthy relationships, and human trafficking, as well as local resources for accessing care and students' rights to access care ([CA Education Code §51930-51939](#)); and

**WHEREAS**, sex education promotes and upholds the rights of young people to information that empowers them to make decisions about their bodies, health, sexuality, families, and communities in all areas of life; and

**WHEREAS**, sex education promotes gender equity - inclusive of young people with varying gender identities, gender expressions, and sexual orientations - safe and healthy relationships and racial equity, ensuring responsiveness to the needs of young people who are Black, indigenous, and other people of color; and

**WHEREAS**, studies published in the [June 2017 edition of the \*Journal of Adolescent Health\*](#) and elsewhere have repeatedly found sex education which includes information beyond abstinence has been found to delay sexual intercourse, increase condom or contraceptive use, reduce the number of partners among young people, and decrease physical aggression with intimate partners; and

**WHEREAS**, young people who received sex education are 50 percent less likely to experience an unintended pregnancy, 31 percent less likely to contract a sexually transmitted infection, more likely to delay sexual activity and to use contraception upon becoming sexually active, and less likely to commit acts of sexual misconduct when fully educated on consent; and

**WHEREAS**, San Diego Unified and the Sexual Health Education Program have consistently [been recognized](#) as state and national leaders on providing students with age-appropriate and medically accurate information, receiving grant funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the past 30 years and maintaining a collaborative and public health approach to supporting students’ physical, sexual, and mental health; and

**WHEREAS**, San Diego Unified protects the rights of all students to make their own reproductive choices by ensuring access to accurate, [age-appropriate information](#) on sexual health, providing sexual health education lessons in grades 6 and 8 and within high school Biology classes, and the Sexual Health Education department maintains a comprehensive [website](#), containing vetted links to information and local clinical services; and

**WHEREAS**, San Diego Unified also [informs students](#) within sexual health education lessons of their fundamental right to [consent to their own reproductive care](#), including pregnancy testing, birth control, condoms, abortion, and medical care related to pregnancy; the right of every student aged 12 and older to consent to their own testing and treatment for STIs and HIV, including PrEP and the HPV vaccine; and, the right of students to release themselves from school to seek these confidential services without parent notification or consent; and

**WHEREAS**, trained San Diego Unified [school nurses](#) provide free condoms on a confidential basis to any student in grades 6-12 under [Board Policy 5141.25](#); and

**WHEREAS**, San Diego Unified seeks to engage parents in the education of their children by ensuring they have access to the [Parent and Family Resources](#) page, which includes “[Guidelines for Talking with Your Child](#),” and parents are [notified](#) about upcoming sexual health instruction, offered a way to [preview the curriculum](#), and have a right to excuse their child from the instruction, per [CA Ed Code §51937-51939](#); and

**WHEREAS**, prohibitions on the right to freely exercise reproductive freedoms are harmful to public health and safety, and are contrary to the values of the people of San Diego and the State of California.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that San Diego Unified will declare itself a champion and defender of health equity and reproductive freedom for all and will observe Women’s Health Month in May by informing students of their reproductive rights on social media and through other platforms popular with students and will share information on the historic fight for reproductive freedom on the main district website.

Adopted and approved by the Board of Education of the San Diego Unified School District at a regular meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of May 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

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Vice President

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Member

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Member

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Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Board Member

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

Approved in public meeting of the Board of Education of the San Diego Unified School District on \_\_\_\_\_

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ANDRA M. GREENE, General Counsel  
San Diego Unified School District

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Marty Stultz, Board Action Officer, Board of Education