

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Attachment: Consent

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PALO ALTO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Date:

03.23.10

TO: Kevin Skelly, Superintendent

FROM: Ginni Davis, Assistant Superintendent - Educational Services

SUBJECT: Resolution 2009-10.13 – Children’s Bill of Rights

STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVE

Academic Excellence and Learning

BACKGROUND

The United Nations proclaimed an International Children’s Bill of Rights in 1990 and the State of California passed its own Bill of Rights in 2009 modeled on the Bill of Rights for Children and Youth in San Mateo County. In February 2010 the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors adopted the Bill of Rights for Children and Youth for this county’s children, written by the Santa Clara County Children’s Agenda Vision Council (Attachment A). All Santa Clara County and local agencies are encouraged “to adopt, publicize, and facilitate the Bill of Rights for Children and Youth into programs and activities for the benefit of our youth.” The Santa Clara County Bill of Rights for Children and Youth was adopted by the Santa Clara County Board of Education in January 2010.

The resolution was presented and celebrated at the *Kids in Common* 2010 Children’s Summit, attended by Ginni Davis and Sharon Keplinger. According to *Kids in Common*, “As a public agreement, adoption of the Bill of Rights for Children and Youth is a first step in ensuring that leaders are keeping the needs of children and youth in the forefront when decisions are made regarding policies, budgets, and government practices.”

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact for adopting this resolution.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the Board of Education adopt the Santa Clara County Bill of Rights for Children and Youth (Attachment B).

Attachments



*For these are all our children. We will all
profit by, or pay for, whatever they become.*
JAMES BALDWIN



HOME ABOUT US ADVOCACY THE CHILDREN'S AGENDA GET INVOLVED PUBLICATIONS CONTACT US COMMUNITY
CALENDAR

Bill of Rights Resolution Language

Resolution Adopting the Bill of Rights for the Children and Youth of Santa Clara County led by the Santa Clara County Children's Agenda Vision Council

Resolved, by the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors.

Whereas, the Santa Clara County Children's Agenda Vision Council is made up of leaders from multiple disciplines throughout Santa Clara County and is leading the Children's Agenda to achieve better outcomes for children and envisions a community where every child is safe, healthy, successful in learning, successful in life; and

Whereas, the Santa Clara County Children's Agenda Vision Council's mission is to champion systems change, effective investment and policies, and strategic partnerships, that improve outcomes for children, youth and families in Santa Clara County; and

Whereas, the Santa Clara County Children's Agenda Vision Council believes that all children and youth have rights to live in a just, moral and supportive society;

Whereas, the Santa Clara County Children's Agenda Vision Council embraces the diversity of our community and believes all children and youth have the same rights, regardless of their culture, race, gender or gender identity, sexual orientation, religion or disability; and all children and youth have the right to a better world than the one they inherited; and

Whereas, the Santa Clara County Children's Agenda Vision Council has adopted the Bill of Rights for Children and Youth to draw the attention of all County and local agencies, parents, guardians, and private enterprises throughout the county and to provide them guidance in their decision making in order to foster the needs and healthy development of all children, youth, and families in the County; and

Whereas, the Santa Clara Board of Supervisors desires that every child and youth should have the opportunities set forth in the Bill of Rights for the Children and Youth of Santa Clara County.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors adopts the Bill of Rights for the Children and Youth for Santa Clara County as a guideline for all County local agencies, parents, guardians, communities, and private enterprises; and

Be it further resolved that the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors with the adoption of this resolution supports and encourages all County and local agencies to adopt, publicize, and facilitate the Bill of Rights for Children and Youth into programs and activities for the benefit of our youth.

The Bill of Rights for Children and Youth of Santa Clara County:

We resolve to support all children and youth so that:

- A healthy mind, body and spirit that enables them to maximize their potential.
- Develop a healthy attachment to a parent, guardian, or caregiver and an ongoing relationship with a caring and supportive adult.
- Have their essential needs are met – nutritious food, shelter, clothing, health care, and accessible transportation.
- A safe and healthy environment, including homes, schools, neighborhoods and communities.
- Access to a 21st century education that promotes success in life, in future careers and a love r , life-long learning.
- Training in life skills that will prepare them to live independently, be self-sufficient and contribute to their community.
- Employment opportunities with protections from unfair labor practices.
- Freedom from mistreatment, abuse and neglect.
- A voice in matters that affect them.
- A sense of hope for their future.

Bill of Rights for Children & Youth

Santa Clara County

All children and youth have a right to be safe, healthy, successful in learning and successful in life regardless of their language, culture, race, gender or gender identity, sexual orientation, religion or developmental abilities. Santa Clara County is enriched by the diversity of its children and youth. In order to benefit from this diversity, we must ensure all children and youth realize the same rights. Therefore we resolve to support Santa Clara County children and youth so that:

- ◆ *They have a healthy mind, body and spirit that enables them to maximize their potential.*
- ◆ *They develop a healthy attachment to a parent, guardian, or caregiver and an ongoing relationship with a caring and supportive adult.*
- ◆ *Their essential needs are met – nutritious food, shelter, clothing, health care, and accessible transportation.*
- ◆ *They have a safe and healthy environment, including homes, schools, neighborhoods and communities.*
- ◆ *They have access to a 21st century education that promotes success in life, in future careers and a love of life-long learning.*
- ◆ *They have training in life skills that will prepare them to live independently, be self-sufficient and contribute to their community.*
- ◆ *They have employment opportunities with protections from unfair labor practices.*
- ◆ *They have freedom from mistreatment, abuse and neglect.*
- ◆ *They have a voice in matters that affect them.*
- ◆ *They have a sense of hope for their future.*

Signature Date

Name Kevin Skelly.....

Representing Self Organization

Organization Name Palo Alto Unified School District



CHILDREN'S AGENDA
Santa Clara County