



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

City of Anaheim CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

DATE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2015
FROM: OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
SUBJECT: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ANAHEIM SUPPORTING ANAHEIM'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS, AND OFFERING TO WORK IN CONTINUED PARTNERSHIP WITH ALL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO ENSURE STUDENTS IN THE CITY HAVE EQUAL ACCESS TO A QUALITY EDUCATION, INCLUDING SUPPORT FOR PROGRAMS, POLICIES, AND EDUCATIONAL CHOICES PROVIDED IN STATE LAW TO EMPOWER PARENTS AND STUDENTS TO CLOSE THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP (AKA THE "ANAHEIM PARENT AND STUDENT EMPOWERMENT ACT")

ATTACHMENT (Y/N): YES **ITEM#** 27

ACTION:

That the City Council, by Resolution, supports Anaheim's public schools by providing significant financial resources based on the City's historic support of its public schools and to continue partnering with its school districts on joint-use facilities and programs to enhance educational opportunities in the City. In addition, this Resolution urges the seven school districts that serve Anaheim students to adopt policies and programs to provide greater levels of high quality educational choice, including charter schools, and to adopt strategic plans and reforms to close the achievement gap for chronically low performing schools in Anaheim before seeking additional city funding. Lastly, this resolution urges all seven school districts in the City to actively inform parents of their legal rights under the California Parent Empowerment law and its Parent Trigger provisions, and to support and not in any way legally hinder or cease existing legal efforts to challenge parents exercising their legal rights as authorized by state law.

DISCUSSION:

At the September 1, 2015 City Council meeting, Council Member Murray requested that staff bring forth a Resolution for council consideration to support Anaheim's public schools, by working in partnership with all city school districts to ensure students in the City have equal access to a high quality education, including support for programs, policies, and educational choices provided in state law to empower parents and students to close the achievement gap.

The City of Anaheim takes great pride in having a strong and longstanding tradition of partnering with all school districts operating within the boundaries of the City. In partnering with our school districts, the City provides support to schools through existing joint use agreements that allow for the shared use of play fields for both students and

citizens and ongoing financial support for those facilities. City financial support includes funding public safety officers and crossing guards at public school campuses, after school enrichment programs, and community services that provide direct enhancement to the education of the City's children.

The Resolution supports the City of Anaheim continuing to provide significant resources based on existing budgetary practices to its public schools and affirms that the City will continue to partner with its school districts on joint-use facilities and programs to enhance education for all families and children in the City.

The Resolution further urges the seven school districts serving children and families in Anaheim to adopt policies and programs to provide greater levels of educational choices and access to educational institutions of higher learning, including charter schools. This includes actively informing parents of their legal rights under the California Parent Empowerment law and its Parent Trigger provisions, and supporting efforts of parents in exercising their legal rights as authorized by state law.

IMPACT ON BUDGET:

There is no budgetary impact.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Garcia
Deputy City Manager

Attachment

1. Resolution