

ALAMEDA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Alameda, California
Resolution

May 14, 2019

Resolution No. 2018-2019.43

**Resolution in Support of Funding from the City of Alameda
for Mental Health Staffing for Alameda Family Services**

WHEREAS, In the 2017-18 school year, Alameda Unified School District conducted a comprehensive assessment of the current behavioral health needs of the students it serves; and

WHEREAS, Students, parents, staff, and key stakeholders overwhelmingly reported that additional staff (counselors, therapists, psychologists, etc.) and behavioral health services, including individual, group, peer, and family counseling, are needed to address students' increasing behavioral health needs; and

WHEREAS, There is a critical need to increase partnership with mental health providers and agencies that can support the district's efforts to implement a comprehensive behavioral health integrated system of support; and

WHEREAS, Students, staff, and parents all reported that the biggest behavioral health problems for students in their schools are depression or feeling sad, anxiety, teasing, and problems at home that affect the student at school; and

WHEREAS, Student groups overwhelmingly reported problems dealing with stress, anxiety, feeling sad or feeling hopeless, suicidal thoughts, and problems with drug use and abuse, especially cannabis, alcohol, and vaping; and

WHEREAS, Families are facing significant issues and are hesitant to seek help/support through the school due to a variety of barriers (e.g., privacy concerns, stigma, lack of money or time to address the issues, and don't know what services are available); and

WHEREAS, The resources to meet the needs of students are woefully inadequate and at a crisis level; and

WHEREAS, Alameda Unified School District has committed \$1.4 million dollars of its budget to address the issues raised in the mental health needs assessment but is still short an additional \$1.5 million dollars to fully implement the plan; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education and staff of Alameda Unified School District recognized this extreme need for appropriate services and supports for mental health wellness for youth within the City of Alameda.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alameda Board of Education invites and supports funding from the City of Alameda to be used for increased staffing for student mental health services to be provided by Alameda Family Services.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of May, 2019.

AYES: 4 MEMBERS: Bonta, Dailey, Harris, Williams

NOES: 0 MEMBERS: _____

ABSENT: 1 MEMBERS: Lynn

Mialisa Bonta

Mialisa Bonta, President
Board of Education
Alameda Unified School District
Alameda County, State of California

ATTEST:

By: Sean McPhetridge

Sean McPhetridge, Secretary
Board of Education
Alameda Unified School District
Alameda County, State of California