

**MOUNTAIN VIEW LOS ALTOS HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

RESOLUTION NO. 20-40: RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT CLIMATE ACTION

WHEREAS, the climate crisis is a pressing issue that requires action at the local, state and national level; and

WHEREAS, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has reported that Earth's global average atmospheric temperature rose by approximately 0.9 °C (1.5 °F) between 1880 and 2012, and this rise has continued; and

WHEREAS, there is a general consensus in scientific communities that current human activities have devastated our ecosystems, increased the intensity or frequency of many of the destructive natural phenomena we see today; and

WHEREAS, many groups of students of the Mountain View-Los Altos Union High School District recognize that the climate crisis is an emergency that requires immediate action; and

WHEREAS, climate change is a social justice, equity and human rights issue; and

WHEREAS, California, especially the districts within Santa Clara County, are leaders in improving the sustainability of its local communities, such as the Mountain View City Council voting to divest all previous City investments from fossil fuel companies (2018) and achieve carbon neutrality by 2045 (2020); and

WHEREAS, the California Parent Teacher Association has declared climate change a children's issue as of 2015, and it is the current and future generations of students that will be impacted the most by a deteriorating environment; and

WHEREAS, the best educational experience possible for students includes a clean and healthy environment and reassurance for a sustainable future; and

WHEREAS, an optimal learning environment in which students, administrators, faculty, parents and staff support one another, provides for student voices to be acknowledged, including those concerning environmental and sustainability issues; and

WHEREAS, the actions and support of the school district can foster community involvement of students to address current issues, including the climate crisis; and

WHEREAS, 66 school boards have passed climate resolutions since December 2017, including Campbell Union High School District, Fremont Unified School District, Mt. Diablo Unified School District, and San Francisco Unified School District; and

WHEREAS, the Mountain View-Los Altos Union High School District celebrates the accomplishments already made toward sustainability, including but not limited to:

1. Green Certification of the entire Mountain View-Los Altos Union High School District, which includes all high school campuses and the district office
2. California Green Ribbon School Silver Level status of Los Altos High School in 2019
3. Solar panel canopies at both Mountain View and Los Altos High School parking lots
4. Battery storage systems at both Mountain View and Los Altos High School campuses
5. 50+ electric vehicle charging stations at Mountain View and Los Altos campuses combined
6. Electric power from Silicon Valley Clean Energy provided entirely from solar, wind and hydroelectric power sources
7. Ban on sale of single-use plastic water bottles
8. Distribution of reusable water bottles to every student in the Los Altos High School Class of 2023
9. 9+ water bottle refill stations on Mountain View and Los Altos High School campuses combined
10. Utilization of the water from Los Altos High School well for landscaping purposes
11. Bioswales and French drains to return rainwater to the water table at Los Altos High School
12. Installation of artificial turf on both Mountain View and Los Altos High School campuses to conserve water
13. Meatless Mondays and daily plant-based options at both Mountain View and Los Altos High School cafeterias

LET IT THEREFORE BE RESOLVED THAT, the Board will recognize that a climate emergency threatens our district, county, state, and nation, and thus should be a priority in formulating policies; and

LET IT THEREFORE BE RESOLVED THAT, the Mountain View-Los Altos Union High School District Board of Trustees calls on Congress to take swift and effective action to fight climate change; and

LET IT THEREFORE BE RESOLVED THAT, the Mountain View-Los Altos Union High School District Board will advise the Superintendent to establish a Climate Action Committee. The Head of the Committee shall be appointed by the Superintendent, who will invite selected stakeholders such as students, administrators, faculty advisors, parents and community members to be part of the Committee. The Committee will provide regular reports of its activities to the Board.

LET IT THEREFORE BE RESOLVED THAT, the Committee shall research and discuss sustainability actions for implementation, such as but not limited to:

1. Reviewing current and future facilities, operational priorities and projects to assess their environmental impacts; and

2. Prioritizing environmental education across multiple departments, incorporating climate literacy and climate justice as part of the district’s curriculum; and
3. Establishing targets for reducing district greenhouse gas emissions; and
4. Engaging with local, state and federal representatives to advocate for non-partisan, common-sense climate policies that protect current and future students.
5. Making recommendations on:
 - a. Electric alternatives for district vehicles and landscape equipment
 - b. The risk of investing district funds in banks invested in the fossil fuel industry
 - c. Public and sustainable transportation
 - d. Reduction of single-use plastics
 - e. Reduction of water usage according to indoor and outdoor water audits from the Santa Clara Valley Water District
 - f. Waste sorting systems on all campuses

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board will direct the district to transmit official copies of this resolution to local school boards, both city councils, the Santa Clara County Office of Education, the State Superintendent of Education, the California State Board of Education, the California School Boards Association, the National School Boards Association, our state and national representatives in Sacramento and Washington D.C., and the Schools for Climate Action campaign.

Presented to the Mountain View Los Altos High School District Board of Trustees for information on May 18, 2020.

Presented to the Mountain View Los Altos High School District + Board of Trustees for adoption on June 8, 2020.

AYES: _____

NOES: _____

ABSENT: _____

ABSTAIN: _____

Sanjay Dave, President
Board of Trustees

Dr. Nellie Meyer, Superintendent