

**RESOLUTION  
OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OF THE  
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Resolution No. 0809-0136**

**Solving the Budget Crisis Particularly for K-12 Education**

**WHEREAS**, public education is a right under Article 9 of the California Constitution and more than 6 million students deserve the highest quality education; and

**WHEREAS**, the Legislature and Governor already imposed \$2.8 billion in education cuts in September 2008, resulting in significant reduction of essential programs and services to students that are integral to their success; and

**WHEREAS**, these cuts have resulted in teacher layoffs and increased class sizes statewide, not to mention a further erosion of the support system for students provided by thousands of classified and paraprofessional staff that have also been laid off; and

**WHEREAS**, the Legislature and the Governor propose to cut schools even further in the middle of the current school year, compounded by deep cuts in 2009-10, resulting in districts having \$1,500 less per student than they need to maintain programs and services for students of two years ago; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of California already ranks forty-seventh in the nation in adjusted per-pupil spending; and

**WHEREAS**, very broad fiscal flexibility is essential for maximum local decision-making and would allow districts to prioritize during the budget crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor's budget plan also illegally manipulates Proposition 98, the state's minimum school funding law, to permanently cut at least \$7 billion from California's students, in violation of the California Constitution; and

**WHEREAS**, further budget reductions to education are fundamentally inconsistent with the state's goal of improving student achievement, at a time when our students are making progress toward meeting rigorous state and federal education standards; and

**WHEREAS**, the budget problem was not created by our students and fixing it should not come at the expense of their educational progress and success; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor's proposed modifications to the pending State budget is estimated to have a \$12 million shortfall to the District's budget for the current fiscal year and a \$28 million shortfall to the District's budget for the Fiscal Year 2009-2010,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Governing Board<sup>1</sup> of the Oakland Unified School District adamantly opposes further cuts to education funding and urges the Legislature and Governor to immediately solve the budget crisis with a balanced approach that includes revenue increases; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Governing Board of the Oakland Unified School District supports broad local budget flexibility to help school districts prioritize the resources they have to best serve the needs of their students; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Governing Board of the Oakland Unified School District requests that its leadership arrange a summit meeting with the Oakland/Bay Area State Legislative Delegations and coordinate with other Bay Area school districts to form a coalition to advocate for funding in the Legislature.

Passed by the following vote:

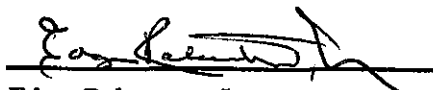
**AYES:** Jody London, Gary Yee, David Kakishiba, Christopher Dobbins,  
Vice President Noel Gallo, President Alice Spearman

**NAYS:** Jumoke Hodge

**ABSTAINED:** None

**ABSENT:** None

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a Resolution passed at a Regular Meeting of the Governing of the Oakland Unified School District held February 11, 2009.



Edgar Rakestraw, Jr.  
Secretary, Governing Board  
Oakland Unified School District

<sup>1</sup> Includes the State Administrator of the Oakland Unified School District

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