

OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Office of the Superintendent of Schools

June 11, 2014

Legislative File	
File ID Number:	14-1034
Introduction Date:	06/11/2014
Enactment Number:	14-1021
Enactment Date:	6/11/14
By:	o/s

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Gary Yee, Ed.D., Acting Superintendent
Vernon Hal, Deputy Superintendent, Business and Operations
Brigitte Marshall, Associate Superintendent, Human Resources Services and Support

SUBJECT: Ceremonial Tribute to Merce Guixa-Casellas, East Oakland Pride Elementary; Bernadette Zermeno, Bridges Elementary; Suneal Kolluri, LIFE Academy; and Julia Gelormino, Think College Now Elementary in Recognition of Attaining National Board Certified Teacher Status

ACTION REQUESTED

Adoption by the Board of Education of Resolution No. 1314-1137— Tribute to Merce Guixa-Casellas, East Oakland Pride Elementary; Bernadette Zermeno, Bridges Elementary; Suneal Kolluri, LIFE Academy; and Julia Gelormino, Think College Now Elementary in Recognition of Attaining National Board Certified Teacher Status.

BACKGROUND

The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) was established in 1987 as an outgrowth of the 1983 report from the National Commission on Excellence in Education entitled *A Nation at Risk*, which detailed a "rising tide of mediocrity" in educational performance that threatened America's economic future and imperiled its standing in the world. *A Nation at Risk* focused public attention on the need for a fundamental restructuring of the country's education system.

The mission of the National Board is to advance student learning and achievement by establishing the definitive standards and systems for certifying accomplished educators, providing programs and advocating policies that support excellence in teaching and leading and engaging National Board Certified Teachers (NBCTs) and leaders in that process.

The National Board seeks to elevate the status, voice and role of accomplished teachers in shaping a true profession. This includes 1) raising public awareness with respect to the cognitively complex, collaborative and expertise-driven nature of teachers' work; 2) setting higher standards for entry and advancement into the profession; and 3) recognizing accomplished teaching through a rigorous professional certification process comparable to those found in other premier professions, such as medicine, engineering and law.

The National Board developed standards for accomplished teaching in 16 different subject areas with students at various developmental levels. These standards were developed and validated by representative committees comprised of master teachers, disciplinary organizations and other education experts. Certification based on these standards began being awarded in the mid 1990s. Today, National Board Certification is considered the most rigorous, coveted and respected professional certification available in education.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

RECOMMENDATION

Adoption by the Board of Education of Resolution No. 1314-1137— Tribute to Merce Guixa-Casellas, East Oakland Pride Elementary; Bernadette Zermeno, Bridges Elementary; Suneal Kolluri, LIFE Academy; and Julia Gelormino, Think College Now Elementary in Recognition of Attaining National Board Certified Teacher Status.

Legislative File	
File ID Number:	14-1034
Introduction Date:	06/11/2014
Enactment Number:	14-1021
Enactment Date:	6/11/15
By:	OS

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

Resolution No. 1314-1137

**Tribute to Merce Guixa-Casellas, East Oakland Pride Elementary; Bernadette Zermeno, Bridges Elementary; Suneal Kolluri, LIFE Academy; and Julia Gelormino, Think College Now Elementary in
Recognition of Attaining National Board Certified Teacher Status**

WHEREAS, Merce Guixa-Casellas, Teacher at East Oakland PRIDE Elementary, has earned the distinction of National Board Certified Teacher in the area of English as a New Language/Early and Middle Childhood; and

WHEREAS, Julia Gelormino, Teacher at Think College Now Elementary, has earned the distinction of National Board Certified Teacher as a Generalist, Early Childhood; and

WHEREAS, Bernadette Zermeno, Teacher at Bridges Elementary School, has earned the distinction of National Board Certified Teacher as a Generalist/Early Childhood; and

WHEREAS, Suneal Kolluri, Teacher at LIFE Academy High School, has earned the distinction of National Board Certified Teacher in the area of Social Studies - History/Adolescence and Young Adulthood, and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers commit approximately 600 hours to earning their designation, one of the highest honors in the education profession and an indication of superior competency and dedication; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers make knowledge accessible to all students; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers recognize individual differences that distinguish students and take account for these differences in their practice, delivering effective instruction and moving fluently through a range of instructional techniques while keeping students motivated, engaged and focused; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers respect the cultural and family differences students bring to their classroom; and are concerned with their students' self concept, their motivation and the effects of learning on peer relationships; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers are leaders and actively know how to seek and build partnerships with community groups and businesses; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers have mastery over the subjects they teach as well as a deep understanding of the history and real-world applications of the subject; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers know how to assess the progress of individual students as well as the class as a whole, can explain student performance to parents, and work with parents to engage them productively in the work of the school; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers are concerned with the development of character and civic responsibility and model what it means to be an educated person - they read, they question, they create and they are willing to try new things;

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers are familiar with learning theories and instructional strategies, critically examine their practice on a regular basis, expand their repertoire of skills and incorporate new findings into their practice as they work with other professionals on instructional policy, curriculum development and staff development; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education and Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District salute Merce Guixa-Casellas, Bernadette Zermeno, Suneal Kolluri, and Julia Gelormino for exhibiting professional excellence on a national level and for achieving the distinguished rank of National Board Certified Teacher in the 2013-14 school year.

Passed by the following vote:

AYES: Anne Campbell Washington, Roseann Torres, Christopher Dobbins, Jumoke Hinton Hodge, Vice President
James Harris, President David Kakishiba

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Jody London

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a Resolution passed at a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District held June 11, 2014.

OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Legislative File	
File ID Number:	14-1034
Introduction Date:	06/11/2014
Enactment Number:	14-1021
Enactment Date:	6/11/14
By:	DA

David Kakishiba

Dr. Gary Yee
Acting Superintendent and Secretary, Board of Education

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SUPERINTENDENT OF THE
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Resolution No. 1314-1137-A**

**Tribute to Merce Guixa-Casellas in Recognition of
Attaining National Board Certified Teacher Status**

WHEREAS, Merce Guixa-Casellas, Teacher at East Oakland PRIDE Elementary, has earned the distinction of National Board Certified Teacher in the area of English as a New Language/Early and Middle Childhood; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers commit approximately 600 hours to earning their designation, one of the highest honors in the education profession and an indication of superior competency and dedication; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers make knowledge accessible to all students; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers recognize individual differences that distinguish students and take account for these differences in their practice, delivering effective instruction and moving fluently through a range of instructional techniques while keeping students motivated, engaged and focused; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers respect the cultural and family differences students bring to their classroom and are concerned with their students' self concept, their motivation and the effects of learning on peer relationships; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers are leaders and actively know how to seek and build partnerships with community groups and businesses; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers have mastery over the subjects they teach as well as a deep understanding of the history and real-world applications of the subject; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers know how to assess the progress of individual students as well as the class as a whole, can explain student performance to parents, and work with parents to engage them productively in the work of the school; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers are concerned with the development of character and civic responsibility, and model what it means to be an educated person—they read, they question, they create and they are willing to try new things;

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers are familiar with learning theories and instructional strategies, critically examine their practice on a regular basis, expand their repertoire of skills and incorporate new findings into their practice as they work with other professionals on instructional policy, curriculum development and staff development; and

WHEREAS, East Oakland PRIDE Principal Carol Johnson noted that Ms. Guixa-Casellas maintains a classroom with high expectations and a strong sense of urgency and purpose, with clear lesson objectives and stressing deeper and contextual understanding of subject matter; and

WHEREAS, Principal Johnson describes Ms. Guixa-Casellas as very fair and loving toward students; encouraging and modeling empathy and open discussions to aid in conflict resolution, respectful and celebratory of diverse cultures represented in and out of her classroom, and encouraging and welcoming of parent involvement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education and Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District salute Merce Guixa-Casellas for exhibiting professional excellence on a national level and for achieving the distinguished rank of National Board Certified Teacher in the 2013-14 school year.

Given under our hand and the District's seal this 11th Day of June 2014 at Oakland, California.

David Kakishiba
President, Board of Education
Oakland Unified School District

Dr. Gary Yee
Acting Superintendent
Oakland Unified School District

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PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Education the Oakland Unified School District, this 11th day of June, 2014, by the following vote:

AYES: Anne Campbell Washington, Roseann Torres, Christopher Dobbins, Jumoke Hinton Hodge, Vice President James Harris, President David Kakishiba

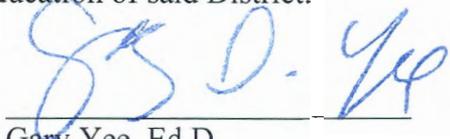
NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Jody London

CERTIFICATION

I, Gary Yee, Ed.D., Superintendent and Secretary of the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District, Alameda County, State of California, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly approved and adopted by the Board of Education of said District at a Regular Meeting thereof held on the 11th day of June, 2014, with a copy of such Resolution being on file in the Office of the Board of Education of said District.



Gary Yee, Ed.D.
Secretary, Governing Board
Oakland Unified School District

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SUPERINTENDENT OF THE
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Resolution No. 1314-1137-B**

**Tribute to Bernadette Zermeño in Recognition of
Attaining National Board Certified Teacher Status**

WHEREAS, Bernadette Zermeño, Teacher at Bridges Elementary School, has earned the distinction of National Board Certified Teacher as a Generalist/Early Childhood; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers commit approximately 600 hours to earning their designation, one of the highest honors in the education profession and an indication of superior competency and dedication; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers make knowledge accessible to all students; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers recognize individual differences that distinguish students and take account for these differences in their practice, delivering effective instruction and moving fluently through a range of instructional techniques while keeping students motivated, engaged and focused; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers respect the cultural and family differences students bring to their classroom and are concerned with their students' self concept, their motivation and the effects of learning on peer relationships; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers are leaders and actively know how to seek and build partnerships with community groups and businesses; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers have mastery over the subjects they teach as well as a deep understanding of the history and real-world applications of the subject; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers know how to assess the progress of individual students as well as the class as a whole, can explain student performance to parents, and work with parents to engage them productively in the work of the school; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers are concerned with the development of character and civic responsibility, and model what it means to be an educated person—they read, they question, they create and they are willing to try new things;

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers are familiar with learning theories and instructional strategies, critically examine their practice on a regular basis, expand their repertoire of skills and incorporate new findings into their practice as they work with other professionals on instructional policy, curriculum development and staff development; and

WHEREAS, Bridges Principal Clara Tarango noted that Ms. Zermeño is an excellent educator and colleague, energetic and positive in her approach, who challenges herself intellectually and is thoughtful and reflective in assessing her own practice; and

WHEREAS, Principal Tarango further describes Ms. Zermeño as a caring, compassionate and valued member of the Bridges community who is responsive to colleagues, students and parents and consequently well-liked and appreciated by families and staff alike.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education and Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District salute Bernadette Zermeño for exhibiting professional excellence on a national level and for achieving the distinguished rank of National Board Certified Teacher in the 2013-14 school year.

Given under our hand and the District's seal this 11th Day of June 2014 at Oakland, California.

David Kakishiba
President, Board of Education
Oakland Unified School District

Dr. Gary Yee
Acting Superintendent
Oakland Unified School District

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PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Education the Oakland Unified School District, this 11th day of June, 2014, by the following vote:

AYES: Anne Campbell Washington, Roseann Torres, Christopher Dobbins, Jumoke Hinton Hodge, Vice President James Harris, President David Kakishiba

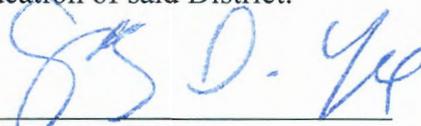
NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Jody London

CERTIFICATION

I, Gary Yee, Ed.D., Superintendent and Secretary of the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District, Alameda County, State of California, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly approved and adopted by the Board of Education of said District at a Regular Meeting thereof held on the 11th day of June, 2014, with a copy of such Resolution being on file in the Office of the Board of Education of said District.



Gary Yee, Ed.D.
Secretary, Governing Board
Oakland Unified School District

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SUPERINTENDENT OF THE
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Resolution No. 1314-1137-C**

**Tribute to Suneal Kolluri in Recognition of
Attaining National Board Certified Teacher Status**

WHEREAS, Suneal Kolluri, Teacher at LIFE Academy High School, has earned the distinction of National Board Certified Teacher in the area of Social Studies - History/Adolescence and Young Adulthood; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers commit approximately 600 hours to earning their designation, one of the highest honors in the education profession and an indication of superior competency and dedication; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers make knowledge accessible to all students; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers recognize individual differences that distinguish students and take account for these differences in their practice, delivering effective instruction and moving fluently through a range of instructional techniques while keeping students motivated, engaged and focused; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers respect the cultural and family differences students bring to their classroom and are concerned with their students' self concept, their motivation and the effects of learning on peer relationships; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers are leaders and actively know how to seek and build partnerships with community groups and businesses; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers have mastery over the subjects they teach as well as a deep understanding of the history and real-world applications of the subject; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers know how to assess the progress of individual students as well as the class as a whole, can explain student performance to parents, and work with parents to engage them productively in the work of the school; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers are concerned with the development of character and civic responsibility, and model what it means to be an educated person—they read, they question, they create and they are willing to try new things;

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers are familiar with learning theories and instructional strategies, critically examine their practice on a regular basis, expand their repertoire of skills and incorporate new findings into their practice as they work with other professionals on instructional policy, curriculum development and staff development; and

WHEREAS, LIFE Academy High School Principal Preston Thomas noted that Mr. Kolluri is by all measures a master teacher, passionate about his content, developing highly engaging lessons that push all students to a deep level of learning and reflection, and fusing high level college prep curriculum with engaging relevant performance based assessments; and

WHEREAS, Principal Thomas describes Mr. Kolluri as "...a true professional who loves the profession of teaching and advocates strongly for all teachers serving students with powerful curriculum. He has been a major voice in supporting the growth of new teachers and challenging conventional thinking by providing high quality professional development and is a vital member of the Instructional Leadership team at Life Academy. Our school simply would not be the same without him."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education and Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District salute Suneal Kolluri for exhibiting professional excellence on a national level and for achieving the distinguished rank of National Board Certified Teacher in the 2013-14 school year.

Given under our hand and the District's seal this 11th Day of June 2014 at Oakland, California.

David Kakishiba
President, Board of Education
Oakland Unified School District

Dr. Gary Yee
Acting Superintendent
Oakland Unified School District

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PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Education the Oakland Unified School District, this 11th day of June, 2014, by the following vote:

AYES: Anne Campbell Washington, Roseann Torres, Christopher Dobbins, Jumoke Hinton Hodge, Vice President James Harris, President David Kakishiba

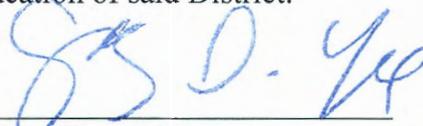
NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Jody London

CERTIFICATION

I, Gary Yee, Ed.D., Superintendent and Secretary of the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District, Alameda County, State of California, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly approved and adopted by the Board of Education of said District at a Regular Meeting thereof held on the 11th day of June, 2014, with a copy of such Resolution being on file in the Office of the Board of Education of said District.



Gary Yee, Ed.D.
Secretary, Governing Board
Oakland Unified School District

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SUPERINTENDENT OF THE
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Resolution No. 1314-1137-D**

**Tribute to Julia Gelormino in Recognition of
Attaining National Board Certified Teacher Status**

WHEREAS, Julia Gelormino, Teacher at Think College Now Elementary, has earned the distinction of National Board Certified Teacher as a Generalist/Early Childhood; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers commit approximately 600 hours to earning their designation, one of the highest honors in the education profession and an indication of superior competency and dedication; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers make knowledge accessible to all students; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers recognize individual differences that distinguish students and take account for these differences in their practice, delivering effective instruction and moving fluently through a range of instructional techniques while keeping students motivated, engaged and focused; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers respect the cultural and family differences students bring to their classroom and are concerned with their students' self concept, their motivation and the effects of learning on peer relationships; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers are leaders and actively know how to seek and build partnerships with community groups and businesses; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers have mastery over the subjects they teach as well as a deep understanding of the history and real-world applications of the subject; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers know how to assess the progress of individual students as well as the class as a whole, can explain student performance to parents, and work with parents to engage them productively in the work of the school; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers are concerned with the development of character and civic responsibility, and model what it means to be an educated person—they read, they question, they create and they are willing to try new things;

WHEREAS, National Board Certified Teachers are familiar with learning theories and instructional strategies, critically examine their practice on a regular basis, expand their repertoire of skills and incorporate new findings into their practice as they work with other professionals on instructional policy, curriculum development and staff development; and

WHEREAS, Think College Now Principal Allison Henkel noted that Ms. Gelormino holds high expectations for herself and her students and strives relentlessly to meet them, achieving remarkable success through differentiated small group instruction, and exceptionally strong classroom routines, procedures and norms that maximize instructional time; and

WHEREAS, Principal Henkel praises Ms. Gelormino as an educator who keeps lines of communication open with all stakeholders including families, volunteers, afterschool instructors, and learning specialists in service of students.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education and Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District salute Julia Gelormino for exhibiting professional excellence on a national level and for achieving the distinguished rank of National Board Certified Teacher in the 2013-14 school year.

Given under our hand and the District's seal this 11th Day of June 2014 at Oakland, California.

David Kakishiba
President, Board of Education
Oakland Unified School District

Dr. Gary Yee
Acting Superintendent
Oakland Unified School District



PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Education the Oakland Unified School District, this 11th day of June, 2014, by the following vote:

AYES: Anne Campbell Washington, Roseann Torres, Christopher Dobbins, Jumoke Hinton Hodge, Vice President James Harris, President David Kakishiba

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Jody London

CERTIFICATION

I, Gary Yee, Ed.D., Superintendent and Secretary of the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District, Alameda County, State of California, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly approved and adopted by the Board of Education of said District at a Regular Meeting thereof held on the 11th day of June, 2014, with a copy of such Resolution being on file in the Office of the Board of Education of said District.

Gary Yee, Ed.D.
Secretary, Governing Board
Oakland Unified School District