

## RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION of the OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT Resolution No. 1415-1122D

Tribute to Sonja Totten-Harris in Recognition of Attaining National Board Certified Teacher Status

WHEREAS, Sonja Totten-Harris, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade English Teacher at Fremont High School, has earned the distinction of National Board Certified Teacher in the area of English Language Arts/Adolescence And Young Adulthood, and

WHEREAS, Designation as a National Board Certified Teacher is one of the highest honors in the education profession and an indication of superior competency and dedication; 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 and can explain student performance to parents; and

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; 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; and

WHEREAS, Fremont High School Principal Emiliano Sanchez has noted that Ms. Totten-Harris focuses on supporting emotional, academic, leadership, critical thinking and social development and competency for all her students through her personal example of grit and resiliency and active partnerships with family, team and community, as well as continuous classroom assessment and adaptation to ensure appropriately differentiated instruction, and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Totten-Harris has demonstrated herself to be a leader within the Fremont community in her role as 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Lead Teacher, spearheading professional development and procedural norms, developing and implementing the 9<sup>th</sup> grade Academic Literacy curriculum, actively leading Common Core adoption, and actively supporting and mentoring teachers new to the profession,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education and Superintendent of the Oakland Unified School District salute Sonja Totten-Harris for exhibiting professional excellence on a national level and for attaining the distinguished rank of National Board Certified Teacher in the 2014-15 school year.

Given under our hand and the District's seal this 10th Day of June 2015 at Oakland, California.

James Harris

President, Board of Education

Oakland Unified School District

Antwan Wilson

Superintendent

Oakland Unified School District