December 15th, 2021

Santa Clara County Office of Education
1290 Ridder Park Dr
San Jose, CA 95131

Via email to board members:
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Cc: Superintendent: MaryAnn_Dewan@sccoe.org,
Climate Literacy Coordinator: jmutch@sccoe.org

RE: Agenda item 7.G. Request Adoption of the Resolution in Support of Environmental Literacy and Sustainability Education and Climate Action

The Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter, Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action and co-signed organizations and individuals urge the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) Board to adopt this resolution supporting environmental literacy, sustainability education and climate action.

Life on Earth faces the existential threats of declining biodiversity and accelerating climate change. As SCCOE and its other partners act on this resolution, we ask that they ensure that students graduate with an understanding of ecosystems, greenhouse gas reduction strategies, and nature-based resiliency and adaptation efforts.

To this end, we hope that all parties involved take swift action to pursue the partnership described in the resolution: “the Santa Clara County Office of Education will be a partner with the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors and Santa Clara County Office of Sustainability to support comprehensive environmental literacy and education and participate on the Sustainability Commission when it is formalized.”

Sincerely,

Dashiell Leeds, Conservation Assistant, Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter
Hoi Poon, co-founder, Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action; Chair of Environment Caucus, Silicon Valley Democratic Club

Linda Sell, co-founder Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action, President, Sunnyvale Democratic Club

Nicole Kemeny, President, 350 Silicon Valley

Sudhanshu Jain, Santa Clara City Councilmember and climate educator to middle school students since 2011

Diya Kandhra, Advisor to Morgan Hill Youth Climate Action Team, Co-lead of Santa Clara County Advocacy Team, Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action; Ann Sobrato High School Environmental Club President

Gary Latshaw, Ph.D. Retired San Jose City College Professor, and senior member of the Sierra Club

South Bay Chapter of California Interfaith Power & Light

Gwyn Azar, Cupertino team lead, Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action, Cupertino High School student

Gary Ding, State Advocacy co-lead, Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action, Harker Green Team Vice President

Radhika Goel, Sunnyvale Chapter Co-Lead, Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action; Homestead High School student

Hoai-An Truong, Leadership Team, Mothers Out Front Silicon Valley

Debbie Mytels, Chair, Peninsula Interfaith Climate Action; Former PTA Council President and Girl Scout Leader, 1980’s, Palo Alto, CA

Susan Butler-Graham, retired teacher, and volunteer coordinator of Mothers Out Front Silicon Valley

Bob Levy, Vice Chair, Santa Clara County Planning Commission

Michael Young, Co-President, Los Altos High School Green Team

Kristel Wickham, Sunnyvale Education Foundation Board Member, Sunnyvale Youth Climate Action Adult Advisor, Sunnyvale Sustainability Commission Chair

Bret Andersen, Board Member, Carbon Free Palo Alto

Todd Weber, Volunteer, Co-Leader Elders Climate Action (ECA) Northern California (NorCal) Chapter, San Jose/Willow Glen, CA resident

Barbara Weinstein, Transition Palo Alto

Mimi Michelle Spreadbury, legal studies student, Orchard City Indivisible Environmental Justice Working group, South Bay Indigenous Solidarity member, Climate Advocate and concerned San Jose Resident

Jeffrey I. Levin, Communications Chair, South Bay Progressive Alliance
Erin Zimmerman, PhD, Climate Reality Leader, Silicon Valley Climate Reality Project

David Coale, Board Member Carbon Free Palo Alto

Susan Penner, Liaison, Legislative Working Group, 1000 Grandmothers for Future Generations

Harriet Harvey-Horn, 38-year Santa Clara County resident (30 years in Los Gatos), Parent, DEEPLY concerned citizen; Climate Reality Project Leader, Mentor, Co-Chair of Bay Area Chapter

Tim Oey, ZeroW.org, Sunnyvale BPAC Commissioner, VTA BPAC member, Sunnyvale resident since 1989

Sindhu Saggeri, Advisor to Santa Clara Youth Climate Action Team, Santa Clara High School

Esther Duong, Advisor to San Jose Youth Climate Action Team, UC Davis, Milpitas resident

Monica Mallon, SVYCA member

Kevin Ma, Advisor to SVYCA’s State Advocacy Team, Mountain View resident

Andrew Goldenkranz, Cupertino High School, FUHSD

Michael Kutilek, Ph.D. Emeritus Professor, SJSU

Shane McDonough, middle school educator, Moreland Middle School Green Keepers Club advisor, author

Stephanie Brown, City of San Jose Resident, Member TWW Indivisible Los Gatos, Orchard City Indivisible, CASS (Ca Indivisible State Strong)

Stephanie Morris, Landscape Architect, and member of Mothers Out Front Silicon Valley Leadership Team

Nassim Nouri, Green Party of Santa Clara County Councilmember

Pallavi Pandit, concerned citizen of the world, residing in Milpitas, CA

Kristine Andarmani, concerned citizen of the world, residing in Saratoga, CA

Gerry Kerbyson, concerned citizen of the world, living in Los Gatos, CA

Ram Appalaraju, very concerned occupant of this planet. San Jose, CA

CJ Gonsalves, San Jose, Thank you, Silicon Valley Youth, for your work to help our planet

Neeharika Yedunuthula, concerned citizen of the world, living in Sunnyvale CA

Joel Masser, retired computer engineer

Sybil Cramer, Parent Liaison, Los Altos High School, Green Team student club; LAHS PTSA Sustainability Committee, Acting Co-Chair, 1 of 4 on the team to research environmental actions and data, writing the Application for CA Green Schools, LAHS achieved highest level award; The 3rd section of the Application focuses on Environmental Education.

Kristine Karnos, citizen of San Jose
Jean A. Larson, retired teacher

Justin Gee, Palo Alto Resident

Patricia Blevins, RN, NP retired I am very much in favor of this idea

Simon Oh, Campbell resident

Pamela Harter, County of Santa Clara Public Health Dept., and lifelong environmental activist

David Land, San Jose Resident