

RESOLUTION NO. 75189

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN JOSE SUPPORTING THE SJ2020 INITIATIVE TO ELIMINATE THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP

WHEREAS, the education of our youth is vital to their future and to the health and vitality of our society; and

WHEREAS, in the City of San José ("City"), over 40,000 students – nearly half of all public school students tested – are not proficient in their grade level skills; and

WHEREAS, avoidable shortfalls in academic achievement impose heavy and often tragic consequences via lower earnings, poorer health, and higher rates of incarceration; and

WHEREAS, there is a disparity in academic achievement across the student population, resulting in a significant "achievement gap" in which Hispanic/Latino and African-American students are less likely to be performing at proficient levels in English-Language Arts and Mathematics than White and Asian students; and

WHEREAS, the economic losses to the City due to dropouts are estimated to run almost \$400 million over these students' lifetimes; and

WHEREAS, increasing college attainment in the San José metropolitan area by 12,052 graduates will result in an additional \$1.4 billion in aggregate personal income every year; and

WHEREAS, the achievement gap has personal, economic, and moral implications for a society committed to the ideal of equal opportunity; and

WHEREAS, there are local examples of schools that have eliminated or significantly reduced the achievement gap; and

WHEREAS, there are research-based strategies that have demonstrated their educational effectiveness at eliminating the achievement gap; and

WHEREAS, educators, parents, elected officials and governments, business leaders, and community organizations are joining the SJ2020 Initiative to Eliminate the Achievement Gap in San José by 2020;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN JOSE THAT:

The City of San José supports and endorses the SJ2020 Compact to Eliminate the Achievement Gap.

ADOPTED this 1st day of December, 2009, by the following vote:

AYES: CAMPOS, CHIRCO, CHU, CONSTANT, HERRERA,
KALRA, LICCARDO, NGUYEN, OLIVERIO, PYLE; REED.

NOES: NONE.

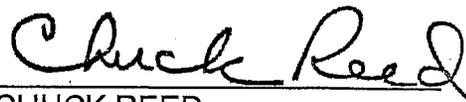
ABSENT: NONE.

DISQUALIFIED: NONE.

ATTEST:



LEE PRICE, MMC
City Clerk



CHUCK REED
Mayor