



February 6, 2020

San José Mayor and City Council  
200 E. Santa Clara St.  
San José, CA 95113

Re: Support for the adoption of San José's first Education Policy

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council:

FIRST 5 Santa Clara County is writing to express support for the adoption of San José's first Education Policy. As a longtime contributor, funder, and implementer of key early education services in Santa Clara County, FIRST 5 is excited to support this momentous occasion for San José and our community. San Jose's students are San Jose residents and acknowledging that the city has a role to play in their educational advancement helps fulfill a key service that our community both requires and deserves. By codifying into policy the important work that has been accomplished thus far through the Education and Digital Literacy Strategy, the Council ensures our residents' access to educational attainment for years to come.

The Education Policy will facilitate the approach of measuring quality and work to assess program outcomes as an accountability measure. It will place emphasis on the importance of measuring the impact of the programming we provide for our children. This work is rooted in diversity, equity, and inclusion to ensure that as many families as possible are engaged. FIRST 5 Santa Clara County is proud to support this initiative that will help ensure children and families thrive for years to come.

Sincerely,

Jolene Smith  
Chief Executive Officer



Preparing every student to thrive in a global society.

February 8, 2020

**Re: San Jose Education Initiative**

To the Honorable Mayor Liccardo and City Councilmembers:

On February 11, 2020 the San Jose City Council will consider adopting San Jose's first Education Policy. This policy was developed with input from educators, teachers, non-profit professionals, and community members.

As superintendent of East Side Union High School District, I appreciate the collaborative approach the city is taking to ensure that every child has the best possible opportunity to have a world class education. With nineteen school districts in the city of San Jose, reaching this goal has been and will continue to be a challenge unless we all work together collectively.

I support the replacement of San Jose Council Policy 0-30: San Jose Education Initiative. The adoption of the Education Policy is an exciting and momentous occasion for San José and our community. Codifying the important work that has been accomplished through the Education and Digital Literacy Strategy into policy cements the educational attainment of our residents as a city priority for years to come and is part of the legacy of this Mayor and Council.

Including equity, diversity, and inclusion as a cornerstone of this work is both notable and critical at this moment in San Jose's history. We must measure what matters, and programming for our children matters. I am encouraged by the approach of measuring quality and working to assess program outcomes as an accountability measure.

San Jose's students are San Jose residents and acknowledging that the City has a role to play in their educational advancement fulfill a key service that our community both deserves and requires.

Look forward to continuing our work together to advance the Initiative in the years to come. I encourage you to vote yes to approve Education Policy 0-30.

Sincerely,

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of Chris D. Funk.

Chris D. Funk

830 N. Capitol Ave

San Jose, CA 95133

T 408.347.5000

F 408.347.5015

esuhdsd.org

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