



**MT. DIABLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD
RESOLUTION 23/24-57
In Support of K12 Adult Education**

WHEREAS, The first recorded adult education class in California was held in the basement of St. Mary's Cathedral in San Francisco in 1856. The class was authorized by the San Francisco Board of Education to teach English to Irish, Italian, and Chinese immigrants. John Swett, who was the first volunteer teacher for the class, later became a State Superintendent of Public Instruction; and

WHEREAS, Adult Education has been integral State community partners since 1856 assisting with significant social, political, and economic issues through job training programs at historic times such as during World War II, during the immigration reform period of the 1980s, and most recently, during and after the State's Great Recession; and

WHEREAS, Adult Education in California overcame its biggest challenge as a result of the severe economic crisis facing both the state and the nation in 2008-09. Funding that was previously reserved for Adult Education was redistributed to other levels of education in the state, resulting in many adult schools decreasing in size and forcing the closure of others; and

WHEREAS, over 66% of adult learners enrolled in Adult Education across California in 2022-23 were between the ages of 25-54, many with children in our California public school system. The impact of Adult Education is felt across generations, particularly for early childhood learners who have been characterized as a priority population to be served by California initiatives by the Governor and Legislature; and

WHEREAS, Mt. Diablo Adult Education successfully serves Concord and the surrounding communities through its collaboration with its community college and community-based organization partners through the Adult Education system. Mt. Diablo Adult Education served **5,794** adult learners in the 2022-23 school year of national and State recovery from impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Mt. Diablo Adult Education provides varied training programs to serve Concord and the surrounding communities, in: Healthcare, Information Technology (IT), preparation for jobs and careers, Adult Basic Education, High School Diploma and Equivalency, English as a Second Language (ESL), Family Literacy, Citizenship, and more; and

WHEREAS, In the 2022-23 school year, nine (**9**) students earned their High School Diploma, and **21** students earned their High School Equivalency. Mt. Diablo Adult Education served **314** students in the High School Diploma and High School Equivalency Programs, helping minimize the State and region's high school dropout rate; and

WHEREAS, Mt. Diablo Adult Education served **1,998** students in the English as a Second Language (ESL) Program in the 2022-23 school year, and parents enrolled in ESL classes to learn how to support and tutor their children in their school work, as well as engage with their children's schools; and

WHEREAS, Mt. Diablo Adult Education provides a safe environment for its students free from discrimination or bullying and regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or socio-economic status; and

WHEREAS, amid the impacts of the recent COVID-19 Pandemic, Mt. Diablo Adult Education continued to provide critical programming and services to our Adult Education students and their families with literacy and basic skills, helping ensure their K12 students were successful as they navigated the challenge of distance learning to complete the school year during the COVID-19 Pandemic; and

WHEREAS, amid the impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic and continuing today, Mt. Diablo Adult Education provides important short-term career training programs, including training for critical healthcare positions that helps to address the short- and long-term impacts of COVID-19, as well as to respond to Governor Newsom’s charge for meeting the moment, both during the height of the COVID-19 Pandemic and today, to address the needs of our communities; and

WHEREAS, the California Adult Education Program (CAEP) celebrates its 10th anniversary this year, having been established by law in 2014; and

WHEREAS, the State of California will proclaim Adult Education Week during the week of April 7th through April 13th, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Mt. Diablo Unified School District strongly supports Adult Education as an integral program of the Mt. Diablo Unified School District.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Mt. Diablo Unified School District strongly urges the Governor of California, Gavin Newsom, and the California Legislature to recognize the important role of K12 Adult Education in addressing the needs of California communities, increasing access to programs and services for the most in-need adult learners of our Great State.

AYES: NOES: ABSENCES: ABSENTIONS:

Erin McFerrin, Board President

Linda Mayo, Board Vice President

Cherise Khaund, Board Member

Debra Mason, Board Member

Keisha Nzewi, Board Member

Dr. Adam Clark, Superintendent

Resolution 23/24-57
Adopted at the meeting of the MDUSD Governing Board of Education on 03/27/2024
