CONEJO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT RESOLUTION #20/21-19 IN SUPPORT OF THE STUDENT BILL OF RIGHTS

WHEREAS, in Conejo Valley, serious inequities within our communities continue to be an issue and are further exacerbated during the 2020 COVID-19 Global Pandemic; and

WHEREAS, in the Conejo Valley Unified School District, the mission of creating an equitable education system is prevalent in all district decisions; and

WHEREAS, in the Conejo Valley Unified School District, a strong education is a basic right for all students; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to cultivate student agency and recognition of fundamental student rights, it is integral that school boards across California adopt a localized student bill of rights that ensures students are equal partners in the education they receive; and

WHEREAS, it is integral for schools to protect the rights of all students and ensure that students feel equipped and prepared to continue their education, even in challenging and adaptive circumstances; and

WHEREAS, it is crucial for school districts to ensure direct and uncompromised access to educators, materials, and resources during such difficult times; and

WHEREAS, students are vital, important stakeholders in any education system, and strong student engagement and participation is crucial to the success of the Conejo Valley Unified School District; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative for a district to have a direct accountability system to receive feedback and communication from students to promote effective dialogue between students, school staff, and district administration, ensuring that students are receiving a successful, stimulating education; and

WHEREAS, strong student voice in local education policy is not common, and allowing students a platform to speak out against the injustices in their community ensures accurate representation of all students.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the adoption of a student bill of rights for all Conejo Valley Unified School District students is necessary for the success of the Conejo Valley Unified School District; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Conejo Valley Unified School District adopts the following rights for all Conejo Valley Unified School District students; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all students are made aware of the Student Bill of Rights and have easy access to it.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if a student identifies their school as not upholding their rights written below, they have the right to speak out in an effort to change the system around them.

- All students in the Conejo Valley Unified School District have the right to receive an equitable
 education, including an elementary, middle, and high school education with a diploma or certificate
 of completion, that supports and uplifts them to be lifelong learners and contributing members of
 society.
- 2. All students have the right to receive academic, collegiate, and career guidance for an appropriate choice of post-secondary education or careers.
- 3. All students have the right to receive teaching from qualified and skilled teachers that prepares them for life beyond secondary education.
- 4. All students in the Conejo Valley Unified School District schools have the right to equitable access to all programs and resources, including accelerated classes and academic counseling.
- 5. All students have the right to know the academic expectations of each of their classes, including grading systems.
- 6. All students, especially students with 504 Plans and Individualized Education Plans, have the right to receive an education that accommodates their abilities and styles of learning, in which they may demonstrate mastery in a way that is suitable for them.
- 7. All students have the right to access resources that will provide them with an equitable education, including materials like textbooks, technology, and aid.
- 8. All students who cannot provide for any of these resources are entitled to financial assistance to receive them.
- All students have the right to safety, security, personal privacy, and protection as provided by the school.
- 10. All students have the right to access mental health resources.
- 11. All students have the right to learn in an environment that employs non-discriminatory disciplinary policies.
- 12. All students have the right to effectively learn from their mistakes by going through an encouraging educational process focused on self-improvement and growth.
- 13. All students have the right to attend a school free of verbal, physical, mental, emotional, and sexual abuse, so that they may feel safe and comfortable.
- 14. All students have the right to be treated fairly and equitably, with respect and dignity, by students, school staff, and/or district administration.
- 15. All students have the right to learn in an environment that respects and reflects the variety of backgrounds and identities in the student body.

- 16. All students have the right to express themselves and their beliefs through clothing and/or any other oral, written, and artistic method as long as their expression follows school standard dress policy/school handbook and is not harmful to other students and staff.
- 17. All school and district policies have student input by providing students with a pathway to actively participate in their education system.

The foregoing Resolution was adopted at a regular meeting of the Governing Board of the Conejo Valley Unified School District on December 15, 2020, by the vote of:

AYES: 5

NOES:

ABSENT: __O

Conejo Valley Unified School District

Superintendent

Conejo Valley Unified School District