

BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Resolution No. 16-032
Kindergarten through Community College Public Education
Facilities Bond Act of 2016

WHEREAS, the California Constitution finds public education is a State responsibility in Article IX Section 5; and

WHEREAS, Article 1 Section 28 states that public schools shall be safe, secure and peaceful; and

WHEREAS, the State has met its constitutional responsibilities since 1982 by providing consistent State bond resources through programs contained in Division 1, Part 10, Article 12 and Article 12.5 of the Education Code; and

WHEREAS, the State is out of school facility funds and cannot provide the State match for over \$2 billion in projects filed under current law; and

WHEREAS, the Berkeley Unified School District has \$125 million in remaining local bond funds to address the District's ongoing facility needs which may be partially funded by State bonds, thereby allowing the District to accomplish more facilities modernization; and

WHEREAS, the passage of the Community College Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2016 would allow the Berkeley Unified School District to utilize matching funds in support of new and modernized Career Technical Education Facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Kindergarten through Community College Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2016 provides for renovation and upgrade of existing classrooms, construction of new classrooms to accommodate growth, for career technical education facilities to provide job training to meet the trained workforce needs of California's employers, and funds modernization and new construction of Charter Facilities; and

WHEREAS, the California unemployment rate is greater than the national unemployment rate; and

WHEREAS, 13,000 middle class jobs are created for each \$1 billion in school facility infrastructure investment; and

WHEREAS, these jobs will be created throughout California and will include almost all building trades; and

WHEREAS, the new Local Control Funding Formula and Local Control Accountability Plan are intended to improve educational achievement for all students but do not provide dedicated facilities funding; and

WHEREAS, quality 21st Century school facilities designed for student needs of today and tomorrow enhance academic achievement and further the State's academic goals; and

WHEREAS, the Kindergarten through Community College Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2016 will not raise State taxes; and

WHEREAS, the Kindergarten through Community College Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2016 State matching funds will reduce the need for additional local property taxes for school facilities.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Berkeley Unified School District supports the Kindergarten through Community College Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2016.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Education of the Berkeley Unified School District this **6th Day of April, 2016**.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Judy Appel

Clerk, Board of Education

Berkeley Unified School District