

# *Sylvan Union School District*

**Resolution No. 2019-2020 #06 – Page 1**

## **School Attendance Awareness Month - September 2019**

WHEREAS, the Legislature and the Governor enacted a local control funding formula and clearly established school attendance as a matter of great state interest by explicitly identifying pupil engagement, as measured by school attendance and chronic absenteeism rates, as a state priority; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature first enacted Senate Bill 1357 of the 2009–10 Regular Session to establish the definition of a “chronic absentee” as a pupil who misses 10 percent or more of school for any reason, making no distinction between excused and unexcused absences; and

WHEREAS, for the first time, every county office of education, school district, and charter school in California is required to calculate chronic absenteeism rates and establish specific goals and actions to improve pupil engagement; and

WHEREAS, the impact of chronic absenteeism hits low-income pupils and children of color particularly hard if they do not have the resources to make up for lost time in the classroom. Low-income pupils and children of color are more likely to face systemic barriers in getting to school, including unreliable transportation, lack of access to health care, unstable or unaffordable housing, and even unfair discipline policies; and

WHEREAS, improving school climate, reducing instruction missed due to discipline policies and out-of-school suspensions, and implementing school-wide positive behavior intervention and support systems and restorative justice practices can have a significant impact on improving attendance; and

WHEREAS, school attendance improves, and chronic absenteeism is significantly reduced, when schools, parents, and communities work together to monitor and promote good attendance and address hurdles that keep children from getting to school; and

WHEREAS, schools and school districts must do more to track, calculate, and share data on how many and which pupils are chronically absent so that schools and communities can work to deliver the right interventions for the right pupils; and

WHEREAS, Superintendent Mrs. Debra M. Hendricks and the Sylvan Union School District have joined efforts to combat chronic absenteeism to encourage state and local action to improve the overall health, safety, and well-being of our children by promoting public awareness and reforms that improve school attendance; and

WHEREAS, the Sylvan Union School District hereby joins with other communities across our state to increase awareness of the importance of school attendance by addressing school attendance barriers and the root causes of chronic absence;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sylvan Union School District recognizes the month of September 2018 as School Attendance Awareness Month in the State of California, and encourages local boards of education, educators, and the community to observe the month with appropriate activities and programs.

# *Sylvan Union School District*

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**THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION** was introduced at the Regular Board Meeting of **the SYLVAN UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT** Board of Trustees held on the 27th day of August 2019, by Board Member \_\_\_\_\_ who made the motion, which motion being duly seconded by Board Member \_\_\_\_\_, upon roll call, carried into Resolution and passed by the following vote:

**AYES:**

**NOES:**

**ABSENT:**

**ABSTENTIONS:**

I, **DEBRA M. HENDRICKS**, Secretary to the Board of Trustees, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees of the **SYLVAN UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT** at a Regular Meeting of August 27, 2019, which Resolution is on file in office of said Board.

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Director of Student Services Carrie Albert  
Sylvan Union School District

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Superintendent, Debra M. Hendricks  
Sylvan Union School District