



Office of the Mayor

ACTION CALENDAR
June 24, 2008

To: Members of the City Council

From: Mayor Tom Bates
Councilmember Darryl Moore
Councilmember Max Anderson
Councilmember Linda Maio

Subject: 2020 Vision for Berkeley's Children and Youth

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Berkeley City Council adopt the 2020 Vision for Berkeley's Children and Youth and authorize the City Manager to develop plans and models for internal and cross-jurisdictional collaboration to remove barriers to learning and to promote healthy development for all Berkeley children and youth.

BACKGROUND:

The 2020 Vision for Berkeley's Children and Youth is a public declaration that sets a goal for the elimination of what is commonly known as the "achievement gap" by the year 2020. 2020 is the year when our children who entered kindergarten in September 2007 are scheduled to graduate from the Berkeley's high schools.

The 2020 Vision recognizes that there are many dedicated and outstanding efforts and programs in our schools and community that are working to advance our children. We need to continue to build on and support them each and every year. However, our public school system has one of the greatest equity gaps between African and Latino students and their White and Asian peers. This resolution addresses this equity gap with an urgent call to action and collaborative strategies that involve the City, the school district, community-based partners, parents/guardians, youth and other institutions such as Berkeley City College and UC Berkeley. We will also work with the Legislative Select Committee on the Achievement Gap, chaired by Assemblywoman Loni Hancock.

Ensuring equitable outcomes for ALL the children in our schools, regardless of race, ethnicity or income, is a challenge no single institution can overcome alone. We have been working with the Berkeley Unified School District, United in Action and members of the Berkeley Integrated Resources Initiative to develop the resolution to adopt the 2020 Vision for Berkeley's Children and Youth. *On June 11th the Berkeley Unified School District affirmed the 2020 Vision and approved the strategies set forth in this resolution*

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

May require new and/or redirected funding.

CONTACT:

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| Mayor Tom Bates | 981-7100 |
| Councilmember Darryl Moore | 981-7120 |
| Councilmember Max Anderson | 981-7130 |
| Councilmember Linda Maio | 981-7110 |

Attachment:

1 Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. XX,XXX N.S.

ADOPT THE 2020 VISION FOR BERKELEY'S CHILDREN AND YOUTH

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley (COB), the Berkeley Unified School District (BUSD), and United in Action (UIA) value the diversity of ideas, experiences and perspectives in our community and recognize the need to work together to support and foster success among our city's children and youth; and

WHEREAS, the Berkeley Unified School District created the Office of Integrated Resources in 2005 to weave culturally relevant school and community programs and services together; launched the Universal Learning Support System to provide early and coordinated intervention services for students; confirmed the goal of having all students reach proficiency and college-readiness; and directed staff to create a Call to Action - a set of guiding principles and an action plan to close the achievement gap; and

WHEREAS, United in Action, a community-driven multi-ethnic coalition, formed in 2002, and consisting of Latinos Unidos, Parents of Children of African Descent, Berkeley Federation of Teachers, Berkeley Organizing Congregations for Action, parents, residents and others, have been advocating to eliminate inequities specifically disaggregated by race and/or ethnicity in educational opportunities, achievements and outcomes in Berkeley Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, the Berkeley Integrated Resources Initiative, a partnership among BUSD, COB, University of California, Berkeley, local community organizations and key stakeholders, was created in 2006 to identify and weave public and private resources together to effectively address barriers to learning and promote healthy development for all Berkeley children and youth; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley is committed to the elimination of health inequities which are directly correlated to educational achievement; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley in 2007 created a Youth Services Coordinator in the Office of the City Manager to lead an Interdepartmental Youth Services Team and collaborate with community agencies to improve the coordination and utilization of City resources for youth; and

WHEREAS, the Berkeley Unified School District is in the process of developing a new vision, mission and set of goals to address issues pertaining to the academic success of all students; and

WHEREAS, the whole community benefits when all children and youth are successful in school and they reach adulthood with the knowledge, skills and values to realize their full potential and participate meaningfully in the world.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Berkeley City Council join together with the Berkeley School Board, United in Action, key community stakeholders and the community in a call for urgent action to make educational success, equity and outcomes for all Berkeley's youth a communitywide priority by removing the barriers to learning and providing opportunities for all Berkeley children to succeed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Berkeley City Council join with the Berkeley School Board, United in Action and the community to affirm the following 2020 Vision for Berkeley's Children and Youth and the strategies for moving forward:

2020 Vision for Berkeley's Children and Youth:

That all children, regardless of race, ethnicity and income, who enter Berkeley public schools beginning in 2007 (and remain in the district) will achieve equitable outcomes with no proficiency differences by the time they graduate in June, 2020; and that all children born in Berkeley in 2007 and beyond, receive a healthy start and are equally ready to learn and succeed in the Berkeley public schools.

Strategies for Moving Forward:

1. Plan for Educational Success for All: Create a comprehensive action plan to address educational success for all Berkeley's students that articulates specific models, goals and measurable outcomes toward achieving the 2020 Vision. This plan will ensure rigorous culturally relevant teaching and learning that address the broad range of achievement levels and learning styles of our diverse students, using a standards-based curriculum aligned with formative assessments as well as innovative programs that motivate and engage students.
2. Plan for Healthy Child Development for All: Develop a comprehensive action plan to promote healthy child development for children age 0 to 5 and articulate specific models, goals and measurable outcomes to ensure school readiness for all children entering the Berkeley schools.
3. Address Barriers to Learning: Continue to implement the Berkeley Schools-Mental Health Partnership Strategic Plan (as adopted by the Berkeley City Council and Berkeley School Board in Spring, 2007) to build a comprehensive continuum of school-based and school-linked health and mental health services to strengthen the development of the whole child and remove barriers to educational success.
4. Professional Development and Human Resources: Develop the beliefs, attitudes and expectations of all District and City staff that academic, social and emotional success is possible and achievable for all students. The City's and School District's human resources procedures will recruit, train and retain a diverse cadre of educators, school staff, and city employees with the skills and commitment needed to remove the barriers to educational success and ensure all students achieve their full potential.
5. Parent/Guardian and Youth Engagement: Establish partnerships with families and youth, including those directly affected by educational inequities, to support

the work of the District and the City to increase academic success for all students. Schools do not exist in isolation - youth and family engagement, economic security, and good health are all critical to achieving educational success.

6. Community Engagement: Implement a community engagement process that brings together key stakeholders, including Berkeley City College, UC Berkeley, the local business community and community-based organizations to create clear and accessible pathways for civic engagement, youth employment, career development and/or higher education for all Berkeley youth.
7. Leverage local, state and national public and private resources: Develop a coordinated effort with the City of Berkeley, the School District, and other stakeholders to coordinate revenue generation for priority programs and services that leverage and maximize public and private dollars so that all students have adequate and equitable supports for their success.
8. Shared Accountability and Measurable Outcomes: Commit to shared accountability for relationships and actions, with specific benchmarks for success. Both the City and the School District will work with the community to adopt short and long-term achievable outcome measures, and will use the results to guide continuous improvement efforts. Staff will periodically report results to the School Board, City Council, and community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Berkeley City Council adopts the 2020 Vision for Berkeley's Children and Youth and authorizes the City Manager to develop plans, both internal and cross-jurisdictional, to address the student achievement disparities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Berkeley in partnership with the Berkeley Unified School District and United in Action invite all relevant public and private entities to become part of a new citywide partnership devoted to promoting educational equity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Berkeley in partnership with the Berkeley Unified School District, United in Action and community partners jointly convene a planning committee, facilitated by The Berkeley Alliance, to develop a model for an All-City Equity Task Force (ACET) that will guide an inclusive community planning process to promote educational equity in Berkeley. The ACET will (1) advise the Superintendent, School Board, City Manager, City Council, and community stakeholders on goals and strategies to achieve the 2020 Vision, and (2) monitor and review the progress of the District, City and community partners in implementing their plans to eliminate the barriers to educational equity.

