



Kriss Worthington

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CONSENT CALENDAR

January 18, 2010

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
 From: Councilmember Kriss Worthington
 Councilmember Jesse Arreguin
 Councilmember Max Anderson

Subject: Proclamation: Recognition of RISE

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a proclamation recognizing and celebrating Berkeley High's RISE (Responsibility, Integrity, Strength, Empowerment) program.

BACKGROUND

Berkeley High School's RISE (Responsibility, Integrity, Strength, Empowerment) program, a recently launched initiative, encourages Berkeley High youth to make positive changes in their communities. Targeting at-risk youth, RISE is an after-school program designed to help high school youth succeed in school and get into college. RISE's primary goal of motivating students to do well in school is partially accomplished by providing academic tutoring and extracurricular activities, and largely accomplished via mentoring and an academically nurturing environment.

RISE's youth research team recently created a short film entitled 'The Next Step', a major effort on the part of RISE's students to convince state legislators of the realities of immigration problems in California and Berkeley. RISE plans on screening the film at an event this January.

Honoring RISE for their efforts not just in dedicating themselves to such a film, but overall as an empowering and successful organization, would provide additional encouragement and credence to this already-successful program.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

CONTACT PERSON

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Councilmember Max Anderson	510-981-7130

IN HONOR OF R.I.S.E.
(RESPONSIBILITY, INTEGRITY, STRENGTH, EMPOWERMENT)

WHEREAS, Berkeley High School’s RISE (Responsibility, Integrity, Strength, Empowerment) program has provided local youth with the tutoring and mentoring they need in order to better achieve their academic goals; and

WHEREAS, providing youth leadership opportunities, opening pathways to dialogue on such vitally important issues as immigration legislation, and motivating youth to pursue higher education are some of RISE’s most impressive, successful efforts; and

WHEREAS, RISE’s students have benefitted from the program greatly, and have demonstrated their RISE-encouraged passions for community-building and local involvement by creating a short film, ‘The Next Step’, that discusses local youth concerns on immigration law; and

WHEREAS, creating a supportive environment in which such an issue can be safely and openly discussed is a laudable achievement, and RISE should be commended for having done so; and

WHEREAS, local political offices, as well as national activist figures, have taken notice of the work RISE and RISE’s students have done, and lauded RISE’s positive contributions towards the Bay Area community;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Mayor and City Council of Berkeley, do hereby recognize and proclaim RISE to be a worthy, effective local youth-empowerment program, and an excellent contributor towards the Berkeley and Bay Area community.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that the City of Berkeley officially endorses the upcoming screening of RISE’s groundbreaking short film, ‘The Next Step’.

Mayor Tom Bates

Councilmember Max Anderson

Councilmember Jesse Arreguin

Councilmember Laurie Capitelli

Councilmember Linda Maio

Councilmember Darryl Moore

Councilmember Susan Wengraf

Councilmember Kriss Worthington

Councilmember Gordon Wozniak