

RESOLUTION NO. 32-10

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND TO SUPPORT THE MARCH 4TH STATEWIDE DAY OF ACTION TO DEFEND PUBLIC EDUCATION

Whereas, public education in California is under attack at all levels. Budgets for public schools – K-12 through University – are being slashed. The fundamental right of every young person in California to a public education is threatened. In response, student organizations, unions, educational leaders, and community members are uniting to organize the March 4th Statewide Day of Action to Defend Public Education; and

Whereas, students across the UC system are already organizing for the day, as are University of California President Mark Yudof, the California Teacher’s Association (CTA), the Oakland Education Association (OEA), the San Francisco Labor Council (AFL-CIO), the California Labor Federation, the California Faculty Association, the California Federation of Teachers, the United Teachers of Los Angeles, the United Educators of San Francisco, AFSCME Local 444, and the University and Professional Technical Employees - Local 1; and

Whereas, March 4th can be a tremendous show of power by all those who support public education. It can demonstrate our commitment to public education, and can strengthen our ability to make the political fights necessary to defend schools and universities at all levels over the whole next period of time. These struggles are looming, and we must be in a position to win; and

Whereas, in addition to attacks and crippling budget cuts at the K-12 level, the right of every high school graduate in California to admission to a community college, state university, or UC campus – institutionalized in the California Master Plan for Public Education – is being threatened; and

Whereas, the elimination of this right – a gain of the last civil rights movement -- would be a fundamental step backward for Richmond's young people, resulting in a catastrophic restriction in access to higher education. Statewide, hundreds of thousands of students would be denied access higher education if the protections and rights of the California Master Plan are eliminated; and

Whereas, Richmond has a fundamental commitment to public education, to the young people of this city, their future and their families. It is essential that we act now to make March 4th as broad and successful as possible.

Now therefore be it resolved that the City of Richmond supports the March 4th Day of Action for Public Education and encourages community participation in actions in defense of public education on the day.

I certify that the foregoing Resolution was passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting of the City Council held on March 2, 2010, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Bates, Butt, Lopez, Rogers, Viramontes, Vice Mayor Ritterman, and Mayor McLaughlin

NOES: None.

ABSTENTIONS: None.

ABSENT: None.

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DIANE HOLMES
Clerk of the City of Richmond

(SEAL)

Approved:

GAYLE MCLAUGHLIN
Mayor

Approved as to form:

RANDY RIDDLE
City Attorney

State of California }
County of Contra Costa } : ss.
City of Richmond }

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of **Resolution No. 32-10**, finally passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting held on March 2, 2010.