

**SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Agenda Item# 7.4

Meeting Date: December 17, 2020

Subject: Resolution No. 3178: Prioritization of Teachers and School Staff for
COVID-19 Vaccine Access

- Information Item Only
- Approval on Consent Agenda
- Conference (for discussion only)
- Conference/First Reading (Action Anticipated: _____)
- Conference/Action
- Action
- Public Hearing

Division: Board Office

Recommendation:

**SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

RESOLUTION NO. 3178

**“Resolution Urging Prioritization of Teachers and School Staff for
COVID-19 Vaccine Access”**

Resolution urging Governor Newsom and the California Department of Public Health to prioritize California public school educators for phase one COVID-19 vaccine access.

WHEREAS, as of Thursday, December 10, 2020, the California Department of Public Health has reported over 1.4 million confirmed COVID-19 cases in California, and a total of 20,463 deaths in the state; and

WHEREAS, in the early stages of the pandemic, local and state public health orders required the closure of public schools across the state to slow the spread of coronavirus in the community; and

WHEREAS, despite the unprecedented nature of the public health crisis, school districts,

WHEREAS, the longer schools are closed, the higher is the risk of severe harm to vulnerable

WHEREAS, research shows child care needs related to school closures are forcing women out of the workforce at rates much higher than that of men, leading experts to project significant wage losses for affected women that not only result in immediate financial instability but will likely constrain their future prospects and earnings, as well as exacerbate the gender wage gap; and

WHEREAS, closures are expected to reduce schooling and lead to future losses in earnings for current students, with one recent working paper estimating the present-value loss in expected lifetime earnings to current students for only the four-month period 2019-20 COVID-19 school closures at \$21,158 per individual student in high-income countries; which equates to over \$800 million dollars in projected lost earnings among current SCUSD students just due to the four-month 2019-20 school closures; and

WHEREAS, despite implementation of numerous mitigation strategies, in-person schooling inherently includes risk factors for potential **occupational exposure** for educators and school staff that cannot be mitigated, including a long time duration interacting with a large numbers of students as well as most interaction occurring indoors; and

WHEREAS, it is an ethical imperative to weigh the special moral status of children and our obligations to them in decision-making about vaccine prioritization; and

WHEREAS, education is the cornerstone of democracy, and at a time when democratic institutions are under attack, there is a moral obligation to protect the integrity of educational institutions by ensuring that they are well-resourced and equipped to overcome the current and future challenges presented by the COVID-19 health crisis; now, therefore, be it,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sacramento City Unified School District Board of Education urges Governor Newsom, the California Department of Public Health, the state Vaccine Community Advisory Committee, the state Drafting Guidelines Workgroup and all other state and local health officials to prioritize the recovery of our public education system by making vaccines available to teachers and school staff immediately within Phase 1B so we can safely reopen schools and get students back into the classroom as soon as possible; and be it,

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