



SANTA ROSA HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION

“Once A Panther, Always A Panther”

SANTA ROSA HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION RESOLUTION

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December 4, 2024

WHEREAS, Santa Rosa High School (SRHS), the ninth oldest public high school in the State of California and the oldest in Santa Rosa, is currently celebrating its 150th anniversary of educating Santa Rosa students in a widely-recognized comprehensive programs of academic, artistic and technical education, and

WHEREAS, throughout those 150 years the teaching of a traditionally excellent faculty has resulted in local, state and national awards for SRHS in academic, arts and career technical education. Among those awards is the recent California State Gold Ribbon Award, the highest possible award. SRHS is also home to an outstanding special education program, and its test scores rank with the highest among the city’s high schools, and

WHEREAS, SRHS, not only an iconic educational institution and the flagship school of the Santa Rosa City School District (SRCS) but with its distinctive brick architecture and historical significance as a landmark in the city it has been frequently featured in film and commercial production further enhancing the district’s public profile and resulting in financial gain, and

WHEREAS, SRHS offers its students a variety of innovative programs unique not only to the district but to Sonoma County and attracts students from Guerneville, St. Helena and other locales. These programs in the arts, sciences and technical fields are enhanced by the highly successful project SRHS pioneered with Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) allowing high school students to take college-level courses that count toward their high school diplomas as well as university credits. and

WHEREAS, the Santa Rosa High School Foundation since its founding in 1988 has contributed over \$4 million in direct support of SRHS programs, scholarships and student initiatives, making it the largest and most significant such contributor to high school education in Sonoma County, and

WHEREAS, the SRHS Foundation currently enjoys a strong and active membership network, consisting of thousands of dedicated alumni, many of whom are prominent community leaders and influential figures in Santa Rosa and Sonoma County, and

WHEREAS, the closing of SRHS would cause not only the loss of the school’s historic and educational values but would also result in the termination of critical financial and community support that SRHS has provided for many decades, a level of support not enjoyed by any other high school, and

WHEREAS, the SRHS Foundation and its members stand ready to work with the Santa Rosa City Schools district to address budgetary concerns in a collaborative, constructive manner, including through the leveraging of the alumni network and foundation resources to support district-wide efforts that benefit all schools and students.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT; the Santa Rosa High School Foundation strongly urges the Santa Rosa City Schools district to:

1. **Reject the closure of Santa Rosa High School**, recognizing its unique historical, educational, and community value, and the indispensable contributions it has made to the district.
2. **Consider alternative budgetary solutions** that would allow SRHS to continue its vital role in the district and ensure that its students, faculty, and community partners can thrive in the coming years.
3. **Support the ongoing partnership between SRHS and SRJC**, as well as the continuation and expansion of innovative academic programs that benefit students in both institutions, enhancing their educational opportunities and success.
4. **Collaborate with the SRHS Foundation** in future district-wide initiatives, recognizing the enormous potential of the Foundation’s resources and its commitment to supporting the district’s broader goals.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Santa Rosa High School Foundation will continue to stand in strong opposition to any efforts to close SRHS and will pursue all available legal and public avenues to prevent such closure from occurring, ensuring that SRHS remains a cornerstone of our community and a beacon of excellence in public education.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 4th day of December 2024, by the Santa Rosa High School Foundation.

SRHS Board Members:

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