

***Adopted by the Board of Education, on Suspension of the Rules at First Reading, at the Regular Meeting of
April 14, 2015***

Subject: Resolution No. 154-14A2

In Support of Vision Zero

- Commissioners Sandra Lee Fewer, Hydra Mendoza-McDonnell, Matt Haney, Emily M. Murase, Ph.D., Rachel Norton, Shamann Walton, Jill Wynns, and Student Delegates Hanan Sinada and Gavin Chan

WHEREAS: San Francisco's rising population has led to an increase in vehicle traffic and associated hazards; and

WHEREAS: At least 800 pedestrians are injured and an average of 100 severely injured or killed on San Francisco streets each year, and a record four people on bikes were killed in 2013; and

WHEREAS: Pedestrian and cyclist injuries and deaths are highly concentrated on a subset of city streets, and these streets are disproportionately concentrated in low income, non-English speaking communities, causing inequitable barriers to educational access and health that disproportionately burden a subset of schools; and

WHEREAS: The design of our streets is the single most important factor in determining the perceived and actual safety for pedestrians, people on bikes, and other users; and

WHEREAS: Vehicle speeds are highly predictive of injury severity for all road users, with pedestrians five times more likely to die if hit by a vehicle travelling 40 miles per hour compared to 25 miles per hour; and

WHEREAS: Children are more susceptible and vulnerable to traffic-related injuries as they are still developing cognitively and physically; and

WHEREAS: Transportation barriers including traffic safety have been shown to negatively and inequitably impact student attendance and influence school enrollment patterns; and

WHEREAS: The City and County of San Francisco has adopted Vision Zero, which has the goal of eliminating all traffic deaths by 2024; and

WHEREAS: The San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) already supports Vision Zero by being an active member of the San Francisco Safe Routes to School (SRTS) partnership, comprised of City agencies and community groups that promote safe and active walking and biking to school, and supports continued expansion of SRTS programs within the District; and

WHEREAS: SFUSD works to ensure that students and their families may travel safely to and from school, school sponsored field trips, and after-school activities through SRTS programs and other District policy; and

WHEREAS: Lack of perceived safety is a barrier to the District's efforts to reduce vehicle congestion around schools, and increase healthy, active, and sustainable student travel to and from school; and

WHEREAS: Vision Zero provides a framework by which no loss of life is acceptable in our transportation system, which must systemically minimize risk for young people and other vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS: SFUSD has participated in the Vision Zero Task Force meetings since 2014, and seeks to expand its support for Vision Zero through active partnership and collaboration with Task Force members;

THEREFORE BE RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the San Francisco Unified School District adopts Vision Zero and the goal of zero traffic deaths on San Francisco Streets by 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the San Francisco Unified School District supports existing efforts to reduce child traffic injuries through the Safe Routes to School program, and the expansion of these efforts within the District, including:

- Promotion and support of SRTS and Vision Zero activities and curriculum across the district
- School Administrators and teachers to review pedestrian and bicycle safety with students at the start of each and every year
- Expansion of traffic safety education to include parents, staff, and contractors in their multiple roles as drivers, pedestrians, and people on bikes
- Development of informational materials that clearly communicate the goals of Vision Zero and safety resources for dissemination to families. Materials to be included in parent handbooks, District and school websites, and made available in all official languages.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the San Francisco Unified School District is committed to pursuing active collaboration with Vision Zero partners to foster safe street environments at and around all school sites. The District shall foster partnerships to address:

- Regular enforcement of speed limits and traffic laws near schools, in partnership with SFPD
- SFMTA funded crossing guards present at major intersections surrounding elementary schools during the school commute hours
- Proactive investment in capital improvements that promote traffic safety at schools located on high injury corridors, particularly at schools near arterials that do not qualify as 15 mph school zones, in partnership with SFMTA
- Evaluation and remedial safety infrastructure investments made on school premises, in partnership with SFMTA.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the San Francisco Unified School District requests the Superintendent, when hiring the Director of Transportation, add these responsibilities to the position:

- Planning and implementing a comprehensive needs assessment to understand traffic and transportation hazards faced by students and families and developing a SFUSD transportation plan that promotes safety, access, and equity in all modes of travel to and from school.
- Coordinating ongoing work of participating offices within SFUSD
- Developing and ensuring consistency in Vision Zero related communications within SFUSD
- Acting as point-of-contact for Vision Zero partners and representing SFUSD at related meetings
- Maximizing the impact of Vision Zero initiatives in improving student and family travel conditions and eliminating transportation barriers to educational access and equity