

## GOVERNING BOARD RESOLUTION #19-012 IN SUPPORT OF CLIMATE CHANGE SCIENCE LITERACY

**WHEREAS**, the leading scientific bodies both nationally and internationally agree that the Earth's climate is changing and that humanity's release of heat-trapping gases into the atmosphere is the greatest contributor to that change;

**WHEREAS**, the science of climate change has prompted the United Nations and governments around the world to begin redefining our economies and to call for an end to the fossil fuel era through the Paris Agreement within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and other actions;

WHEREAS, the effects of climate change are already being experienced throughout the world, and noticeably in California, with an increase in average temperatures, wildfires, and sea levels, stressing water supplies and local ecosystems;

WHEREAS, some 89% of Californians view climate change as a serious threat to our environment and economy, and the state is responding with regulation, legislation, and continued commitment to the Paris Agreement in spite of recent federal action;

**WHEREAS**, given the multigenerational effects of climate change, it is crucial that all Californians understand the causes and consequences of climate disruption as well as the various evolving strategies to mitigate its effects;

**WHEREAS**, California's growing commitment to STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) education offers an unparalleled opportunity for preparing and equipping students to study climate disruption and to respond to it through energy-efficient and zero-carbon building practices, local renewable energy generation, and similar methods;

**WHEREAS**, with the California Governor's "Key Climate Change Strategies", more opportunities are available to make a difference at the institutional level through energy-efficient and zero-carbon building practices, local renewable energy generation, and similar methods;

**WHEREAS**, the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District has taken significant steps toward modeling sustainability practices including the following:

- Identifying Sustainability Goals in its 2013 Facilities Master Plan and 2016 Facilities Master Plan Refresh,
- Adopting Resolution 15-013 "Energy Conservation Commitment," and
- Making structural and behavioral changes contributing to climate change mitigation, such as using LED and lower wattage lighting, installing low-flow and automatic plumbing fixtures, converting to drought-tolerant native landscaping and drip irrigation, transitioning to solar and low-emission energy systems, and fostering habits of conserving, recycling, and reusing natural resources.



GROSSMONT-CUYAMACA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

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**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District adheres to the belief that change happens when action is taken, and therefore will continue to expand its commitment to addressing climate change by promoting a culture of sustainability and climate change science literacy through leadership, policies, practices, and engagement of employees, students, and the community.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District strongly supports the development of educational programs, initiatives, and/or other learning opportunities regarding climate change science literacy, and seeks to provide rich and varied options for employees and students within GCCCD to build awareness and understanding of the social, economic, and environmental consequences of climate change.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Governing Board of the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District of San Diego County, California, this 18<sup>th</sup> day of June 2019, by the following vote:

AYES: \_\_\_\_ NOES: \_\_\_\_ ABSENT: \_\_\_\_

I, Elena Adams, Clerk of the Governing Board, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a resolution duly passed and adopted by said Board at the regularly called and conducted meeting held on said date.

Elena Adams, Clerk of the Governing Board