



American Heart Association.

# SCHOOL BOARD RESOLUTION

*Whereas*, after decades of decline in cigarette smoking rates we have seen a recent dramatic rise in the use of e-cigarettes by children and teens leading to a new generation of tobacco products addicting a new generation of users to tobacco and nicotine, and

*Whereas*, 90 percent of smokers first try a tobacco product by age 18; and

*Whereas*, there are now over 5 million students using e-cigarettes and vaping products and the tobacco industry, including the e-cigarette companies, spend billions annually marketing their deadly and addictive products; and,

*Whereas*, e-cigarette companies advertise and sell products that include flavors that are appealing to youth and can contain levels of nicotine comparable to or even higher than traditional cigarettes;

*Whereas*, the short-term and long-term health risks of vaping e-cigarettes are mostly unknown and recently have been linked to multiple deaths and hundreds of cases of serious respiratory illnesses requiring hospitalization, and

*Whereas*, we support an expanded effort by the American Heart Association to educate and raise awareness of this growing health crisis of our youth, and their efforts to end all tobacco and nicotine addiction in the United States, and

*Whereas*, our vision is for all of our students to be tobacco and nicotine free, therefore be it

*Resolved*, that the \_\_\_\_\_ Board of Trustees will support an administrative action to review and strengthen school district tobacco policies to ensure that e-cigarettes and vaping are fully addressed in a manner that focuses on improving health outcomes consistent with the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child model to issue an advisory to parents and provide opportunities for community dialogue on the health risks of e-cigarettes and vaping, and encourage campuses to promote health messaging to educate our students and staff. We call on our community to support efforts to end all use of tobacco products including the use of e-cigarettes to achieve the end goal of eliminating tobacco use by teens and assuring our youth are tobacco and nicotine free.

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