

MORGAN HILL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Morgan Hill, California

Resolution in Support of the Congressional IDEA Full Funding Act
Re-introduced on November 16, 2021
H.R. 5984 and S. 3213
March 2022

WHEREAS, the Morgan Hill Unified School District recognizes the need for a strong investment in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA); and,

WHEREAS, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act was first enacted in 1975 to help ensure that all students with disabilities will have access to a free appropriate public education and IDEA's enactment more than 45 years ago, the current federal investment in IDEA is less than 14 percent; and,

WHEREAS, the chronic underfunding of IDEA by the federal government places an additional funding burden on states, local school districts, and taxpayers to pay for needed services; and,

WHEREAS, this compounds the existing pressure already placed on local budget dollars to cover the federal shortfall and will further impact other school programs that are also beneficial to students with disabilities; and,

WHEREAS, on the heels of one of the most difficult years our nation's schools have ever weathered, investments in special education matter more than ever; and,

WHEREAS, while there is still much to learn about the pandemic's effect on education for children with disabilities, we strongly support a prioritized and meaningful investment in IDEA and urge Congress to provide a significant increase for IDEA to address the pandemic's impact on these students; and,

WHEREAS, with the enactment of IDEA, the United States Congress committed to fund up to 40 percent of the additional cost of special education, thereby promising to provide up to 40 percent of the national average per pupil expenditure, which is currently estimated at \$13,828 by the U.S. Department of Education; and,

WHEREAS, our nation's school districts face an increased demand for greater resources to fulfill the needs of students under IDEA, including those for students affected by multiple disabilities whose individual education plans require more resources; and,

WHEREAS, with each increase in the IDEA child count, the Morgan Hill Unified School District and others throughout the country continue to adjust their budgets to accommodate this increased need and ensure that each child educated through IDEA receives the appropriate supports, with some school districts dedicating forty percent or more of their general education budgets to special education services; and,

WHEREAS, in FY 2021 Federal IDEA funding was \$16.5B and AB 602 funding for FY2021 was \$3.8B where the Morgan Hill Unified School District received an allotment of \$1.67 million Federal,

\$5.69 million State, and \$8,400 in one-time monies, which required an \$11.7 million additional contribution of general funds in order to meet student needs; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Morgan Hill Unified School District School Board supports the IDEA Full Funding Act that will help strengthen the federal investment in special education by authorizing a ten-year plan to fully fund the federal share of IDEA; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Morgan Hill Unified School District School Board urges Congress's strong bipartisan support for and passage of the IDEA Full Funding Act; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the School Board remains committed to providing students with disabilities and their families the supports they need.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Education of the MORGAN HILL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT at a regular meeting held on April 5, 2022 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

DATED: _____

SIGNED: _____

Heather Orosco, Clerk
Board of Education

I, Dr. Carmen Garcia, Secretary to the Board of Education, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Education of the MORGAN HILL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT at a regular meeting on April 5, 2022, which resolution is on file in the office of said Board.

DATED: _____

SIGNED: _____

Dr. Carmen García, Secretary
Board of Education