

Ms. Flores – Early Learning in Race to the Top (Waiver of Board Rule 72)

Whereas, California is required to articulate a coherent and credible vision for improved learning as part of the Race to the Top (RTT) application;

Whereas, This requirement provides a perfect opportunity to adopt a comprehensive vision for education that includes early learning as an integral component, and provides a seamless system of supports throughout the learning continuum - from cradle to career;

Whereas, While K-12 should receive a large share of RTT funding, California's plan must also address the need for planning and alignment activities that support kindergarten readiness and transitions throughout;

Whereas, Providing high-quality early learning, particularly for those children most in need, is a proven return on investment and must be viewed as part of the solution for improving our educational system;

Whereas, Including a vision for early education in California's RTT application will also better position California to receive pending federal early learning grants; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District supports the inclusion of early education into California's Race to the Top plan, and urges the inclusion of the following early learning goals within the State's RTT plan:

- Incorporate early learning and an overarching cradle to career vision
- Include state level activities that support kindergarten readiness
- Incorporate early learning planning and alignment as a component of the MOU between the State and local education agencies
- Include support for community-based pilots that benefit disadvantaged children

Resolved further, That this resolution be forwarded to the Governor, State legislators, and all other appropriate State officials.