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RESOLUTION SUPPORTING QUALITY EDUCATORS AND STAFF AT CITY COLLEGE OF SAN FRANCISCO IS KEY TO STUDENT SUCCESS AND COMMUNITY PROSPERITY

Producing a Just, Fair and Balanced CCSF Budget Involving All in the Process is Critical

WHEREAS, City College of San Francisco (CCSF) is an irreplaceable resource for San Franciscans trying to improve their economic situation, from cash-strapped families seeking educational opportunities for their children, to immigrants and displaced workers; and

WHEREAS, City College is using universal access to education as a powerful engine of economic recovery, teaching immigrants English, helping welfare recipients transition to work, and boosting the skills of unemployed and under-employed blue collar workers; and

WHEREAS, City College is the City's largest provider of English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) courses and is the largest job training and placement agency with partnerships with San Francisco's restaurant and hospitality sector and other industries serving as national models;

WHEREAS, until now there had been five straight years of drastic cuts in state funding -- literally tens of millions of dollars cut from the CCSF budget -- resulting in overflowing classes; employee furloughs, pay cuts, and givebacks; and shutting the doors on students who are unable to get the classes they need; and

WHEREAS, during this time the college's employees — from tutors to librarians to custodians and engineers and IT staff and biology professors to deans — have weathered concessions because of a shared commitment to serve the city's diverse students; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco's labor leaders and their unions -- and many rank and file members -- helped organize, finance, and lead the way to secure significant new revenue sources for the college including passing a local parcel tax (Prop A) and statewide education finance measure (Prop 30) in the election held earlier this month; and

WHEREAS, these two propositions alone staved off additional cuts in state funds and will bring tens of millions of additional dollars to the CCSF budget in the years ahead enabling the District to add back course sections and restore recent employee pay cuts; and

WHEREAS, despite these significant additional local and statewide resources generated for CCSF, the District is failing to engage in constructive contract negotiations and instead

proposing further concessions from workers and threatening imposition on a short timeline; and

WHEREAS, given that the CCSF Administration is now demanding unreasonable and unnecessary major contract concessions, including reductions and eliminations in health benefits and threatening an across-the-board unilateral permanent wage reduction effective next month if District unions fail to comply;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Labor Council believes that access to high-quality education is the right of every student and the responsibility of us all; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Labor Council urges students, workers, and other community members to continue building a strong community coalition that recognizes and supports the value of a quality education for Bay Area students, key to which is the provision of significant tangible support for all faculty and staff measured in decent compensation, pay and working conditions that support student learning; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Labor Council encourages all Council members and their labor brothers and sisters to stand with City College workers against further concessions and mass layoffs;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the San Francisco Labor Council hereby urges the CCSF District to remove all threats of imposition, share all financial data, information, and analyses completely and immediately and otherwise negotiate in good faith, including over new revenues coming into the District as the result voter-approved revenue measures.

Submitted by Conny Ford, OPEIU 3; Gus Goldstein, AFT 2121; Maria Guillen, SEIU 1021; and Dennis Kelly, UESF and adopted unanimously by the San Francisco Labor Council on November 26, 2012.

Respectfully,



Tim Paulson
Executive Director

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