[Urging the Our Children, Our Families Council to Convene a Chronic Absenteeism Working Group]

Resolution urging the Our Children, Our Families Council to convene and coordinate a Chronic Absenteeism Working Group and to develop an action plan within six months of their first meeting.

WHEREAS, Chronic Absenteeism is defined as missing more than 10% of the school year; and

WHEREAS, In the 2014-2015 school year 40% of San Francisco Unified School District Elementary Schools and 67% of high schools had a chronic absenteeism rate over 10%; and

WHEREAS, Students of Color, especially African American, Pacific Islander, and Latino Students had chronic absenteeism rates that were disproportionally higher than the other students; and

WHEREAS, Data is showing that chronic absenteeism starts in preschool and impacts a student's ability to read at grade level; and

WHEREAS, Students who cannot read at grade level by 3rd grade are 4 times more likely to drop out of school; and

WHEREAS, Chronic absenteeism has an impact and consequences on students, family, the community, and the system as a whole; and

WHEREAS, Reducing the rates of chronic absenteeism requires systematic and coordinated support services including the education system, legal system, communities, families, social services, and

WHEREAS, In November of 2014 Proposition C was passed by San Francisco voters which created The Our Children, Our Families Council to align efforts across the city and
county, the school district, and the community with the aim of improving outcomes for children, youth and families; and

WHEREAS, We must ensure that students, the school district, educators, and families are equipped with the education, knowledge and supports in order to be successful; and

WHEREAS, One of the approved outcomes frameworks of the Our Children, Our Families Council is regular attendance; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the Our Children, Our Families Council to convene a Chronic Absenteeism Working Group; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the working group shall include, but not limited to the Executive Director of Pupil Services San Francisco Unified School District, or their designee, the Chief of Student Family, and Community Support Division of San Francisco Unified School District, or their designee, the Director of the Department of Children, Youth, and Their Families, or designee, representatives from Office of Early Care and Education and or First 5 San Francisco, or their designee, the Director of Housing Opportunities, Partnerships and Engagement (HOPE) SF, or their designee including Education Liaisons, designee from Attendance Works, a designee from the California Attorney General's office, a designee from the District Attorney office, representatives may also be sought from groups with expertise or experience in addressing or advocating the reduction of chronic absenteeism including service providers, those that work with homeless families, and parents; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the working group shall develop a comprehensive plan for strategies, messaging, and policy recommendations for the City and San Francisco Unified School to reduce chronic absenteeism in public schools; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, To align and coordinate services to children and families provided by City departments, SFUSD, and community partners including a data sharing
agreement between the San Francisco Unified School District and relevant City Departments; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Plan shall include programmatic activities to support students, parents, and schools sites; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the multifaceted approach will consider, but not limited to including and partnering with community based organizations, afterschool programs, and families including outreach and working directly to families including options for home visiting; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the working group shall complete its work within 6 months from the date this Resolution is approved and report its findings to the Board of Supervisors' Government Audit and Oversight Committee.
Resolution urging the Our Children, Our Families Council to convene and coordinate a Chronic Absenteeism Working Group and to develop an action plan within six months of their first meeting.

March 22, 2016 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 10 - Avalos, Breed, Campos, Cohen, Kim, Mar, Peskin, Tang, Wiener and Yee
Excused: 1 - Farrell

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 3/22/2016 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without his approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Date Approved: 4/1/16