## ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION CELEBRATING THE 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF CALIFORNIA CHARTER SCHOOLS

**WHEREAS**, charter schools were established 30 years ago with the passage of the Charter Schools Act in California;

WHEREAS, the law was designed to "provide opportunities for teachers, parents, pupils and community members to establish and maintain schools that operate independently from existing school district structure" to "improve pupil learning"; "increase learning opportunities for all pupils, with special emphasis on expanded learning experiences for pupils who are identified as academically low achieving"; "encourage the use of different and innovative teaching methods"; "create new professional opportunities for teachers, including the opportunity to be responsible for the learning program at the school site"; "provide parents and pupils with expanded choices in the types of educational opportunities that are available within the public school system";

WHEARAS, the Charter Schools Act stated the legislatures intent that charter schools are and should become an integral part of the California educational system and that the establishment of charter schools should be encouraged;

WHEREAS, the charter public school community across California celebrates National Charters Schools Week, May 8 -14, 2022;

WHEREAS, all students are welcome to attend a charter public school regardless of academic performance, disability, religion, income level, race, sexual orientation or zip code;

WHEREAS, charters schools are community schools created by educators and/or parents who have the flexibility to design instructional models that put students first and deliver a high-quality education;

WHEREAS, all charter schools in California are not for profit, free, public, and open to all;

WHEREAS, in the 2020-21 academic year charter public school student population consists of: 57% low income, 52% Latinx, 27% White, 14% English Learners, 10% Students with disabilities, 7% Black students;

WHEREAS, nearly 700,000 students annually attend charter schools in the state of California at over 1,300 charter public schools;

**WHEREAS,** Seventy eight percent of Californians believe that parents should have the right to choose a charter school if they think it is better for their child;

WHEREAS, according to California Department of Education 2020-21 enrollment data, Orange County Charter Schools serve 20,861 students at 35 diverse charter public schools options;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Orange County Board of Education recognizes and celebrates the 30 years of reimagining public education that charter schools have brought to millions of California and Orange County students;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Orange County Board of Education will continue to support Orange County Charter Schools and take policy actions to provide fair, equitable and transparent authorization consistent with California law to provide high quality instructional options for all public school students.

**APPROVED AND ADOPTED** this 4th day of May 2022 at a regular meeting of the Orange County Board of Education.

AYES:

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NOES:

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ABSTAINED: O

ABSENT:

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF ORANGE

I, Mari Barke, President, Board of Education of Orange County, California hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly adopted by the said Board at a regular meeting thereof held on the 4th day of May 2022.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 4th day of May 2022.

Mari Barke

President, Orange County Board of Education