

**RESOLUTION OF THE ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
ORANGE COUNTY CALIFORNIA**

Resolution Acknowledging Dr. Ramon Miramontes Decision to Pause Skyview Move

WHEREAS, Skyview School ("Skyview") is a kindergarten through eighth grade alternative education program located at the Harbor Learning Center in Anaheim serving primarily at risk youth throughout Northern and Central Orange County;

WHEREAS, Skyview has been established at the Harbor Learning Center for approximately 16 months;

WHEREAS, on or about December 6, 2023, Dr. Ramon Miramontes ("Dr. Miramontes") informed parents and staff that Skyview students would be separated by grade with elementary students being transferred to a campus in the Anaheim Elementary School District ("Anaheim");

WHEREAS, Dr. Miramontes had no conversations with the Orange County Board of Education ("Board") concerning the proposed relocation of Skyview elementary students to the Anaheim campus;

WHEREAS, the Board is informed and believes that Dr. Miramontes had no conversation with Skyview parents, staff, or students before announcing Skyview would be split by grade;

WHEREAS, at the December 6, 2023, Board Meeting, the Board received public comment from two (2) Skyview parents relating:

- That day, December 6, 2023, Dr. Miramontes informed parents, staff and students that Skyview would be split by grade with the elementary students going to a campus in Anaheim;
- Dr. Miramontes made a unilateral decision not consulting Skyview staff or parents;
- Skyview students cried upon being informed that they would be relocated to a campus in Anaheim.

WHEREAS, after public comment Board Trustee Jorge Valdes ("Trustee Valdes") requested an information item concerning Skyview be placed on the January 10, 2024, Board Agenda;

WHEREAS, the Board is informed and believes that Dr. Miramontes attempted to speak with Skyview parents after public comment at the December 6, 2023, Board meetings;

WHEREAS, on December 20, 2023, Board President Tim Shaw ("President Shaw") and Board Trustee Mari Barke ("Trustee Barke") visited Skyview and heard parents and staff concerns;

WHEREAS, on January 10, 2024, the Board entertained an agenda item entitled: COMMUNICATION/INFORMATION/DISCUSSION-Skyview Update (Valdes);

WHEREAS, on January 10, 2024, the Board received public comment from approximately ten (10) Skyview, expressing concerns as follows:

- Did the Board know about Dr. Miramontes decision?
- The K-8 community offer stability and continuity for children who may not have at its access to academic success in the past.
- The ACCESS could be in danger of losing the Eagles Catch Pantry and Family Resource Center if the K-8 community school is divided.
- Skyview has made a lasting positive impact on thousands of families in need across our county for the last 35 years. Separating our program will all **but** diminish it.
- Skyview is a community model the state of California is mandating other districts to create.
- A Skyview student asked Dr. Miramontes to consider separation, transportation, and communication.

WHEREAS, Dr. Miramontes was unable to attend the January 10, 2024 Board Meeting;

WHEREAS, Deputy Superintendent Renée Hendrick ("Deputy Superintendent Hendrick") explained and clarified Dr. Miramontes's intentions with regard to Skyview;

WHEREAS, the Board received further testimony from Skyview staff and Assistant Superintendent Vern Burton;

WHEREAS, Board Trustee Dr. Ken Williams cited California Education Code §1983, which provides in relevant part:

- (e) The course of study of a county community school shall be adopted by the county board of education and shall enable each pupil to continue academic work leading to the completion of a regular high school program.
- (g) County boards of education operating county community schools shall ensure that appropriate services and programs designed to address the language needs of pupils identified as English learners are provided in compliance with all applicable state and federal laws and regulatory provisions.

WHEREAS, the January 10, 2024, Board meeting concluded with no ultimate resolution concerning Skyview.

WHEREAS, on January 15, 2024, the Orange County Register published an article entitled, "Skyview, a school for at risk children, may be split into later this year. In the January 15, 2024, article Dr. Miramontes was quoted as follows:

- "While this arrangement (at Harbor Learning Center) has its benefits, the campus lacks amenities crucial for the development of younger children, such as a dedicated elementary library and permanent play structures."

WHEREAS, on January 18, 2024, through Deputy Superintendent Hendrick, Dr. Miramontes released a message stating in relevant part:

- "I have decided to pause on the move. I am looking forward to improving communication and transparency with all stakeholders."

Deputy Superintendent Hendrick informed the Board of Dr. Miramontes' decision.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The Board shall continue to give parents, staff and students venue to discuss educational issues.
2. The Board appreciates that Dr. Miramontes listened to Skyview stakeholders.
3. The Board is gratified that Dr. Miramontes paused the decision to split Skyview by grade level.
4. The Board will continue to cooperate with Dr. Miramontes on important student safety issues.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this seventh day of February 2024 at a regular meeting of the Orange County Board of Education.

Ayes:

5

Nos:

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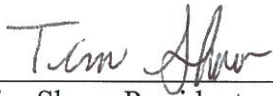
Absent:

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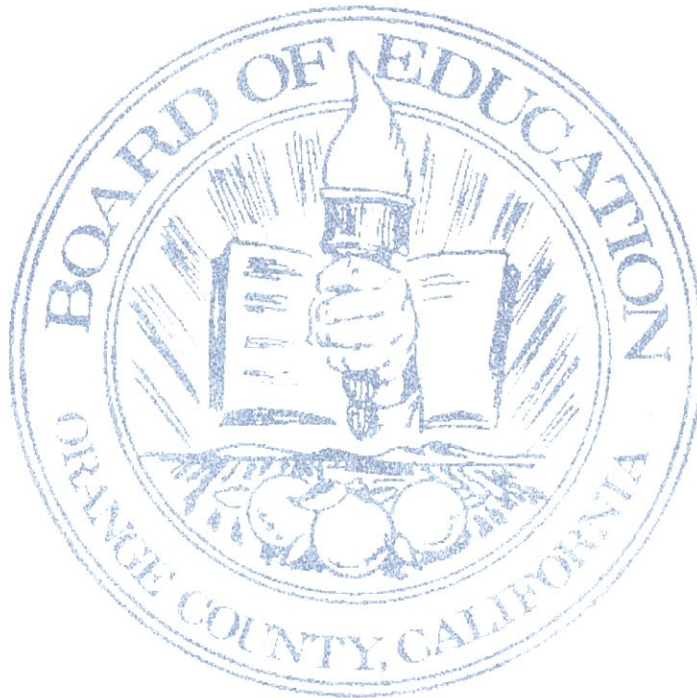
State of California, County of Orange

I, Tim Shaw, President of the Board of Education of Orange County, California, hereby certify the foregoing resolution was duly and regularly adopted by the said Board at a regular meeting thereof held the 7th day of February 2024 and was passed by a vote of (5 to 0) of said members present.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal on the 7th day of February 2024.



Tim Shaw, President
Orange County Board of Education



Resolution #02-24