

# Resolution

## MONTEREY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION NUMBER 19-20-06

Supporting

## CALIFORNIA WELLNESS TRUST

**WHEREAS**, chronic diseases and injuries, most of which are preventable, accounted for 80% of deaths in California in 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, we are in the midst of a large-scale epidemic of obesity and diabetes that shows little sign of slowing and may lead this generation of children to have shorter lives than their parents; and

**WHEREAS**, more than half of California's adults are overweight or obese and therefore at greater risk for chronic conditions including diabetes, heart disease, cancer, arthritis, stroke and high blood pressure and this burden of preventable illness generates enormous costs for families, employers, local and state government and health care systems; and

**WHEREAS**, the six leading chronic diseases alone generated treatment costs of \$1,009,092,286 in Monterey County in 2010, and these continue to rise; and

**WHEREAS**, poor diet is now the leading risk factor for death in the United States, followed by tobacco, high blood pressure, obesity and physical inactivity; and

**WHEREAS**, people who have access to healthy food and eat a healthy varied diet are at lower risk of obesity and chronic disease, and people who live in highly walkable, safe, mixed-use communities with easy access to green space and public transit options are more physically active and less obese, contributing to greater overall health; and

**WHEREAS**, this burden of illness is distributed unfairly with the place where you were born and live, your income, race, and ethnicity all playing a role in determining how likely you are to become ill, be injured or die too young; and

**WHEREAS**, just \$10 per person for strategic investment in prevention would represent less than 1/1000th of our annual healthcare spending in California; and

**WHEREAS**, as our population ages, medical care becomes more complex and costly, and we seek to assure health care coverage for Californians, the need to invest in preventing those illnesses that can be averted is urgent; and

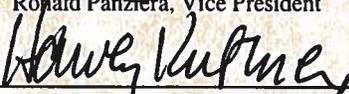
**WHEREAS**, Wellness Trusts are being created that provide sustained, dedicated funding to reduce leading causes of premature illness and death and have demonstrated positive outcomes in reducing risk factors for disease:

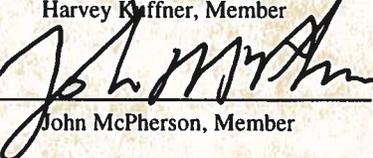
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Monterey County Board of Education does hereby adopt Resolution Number 19-20-06 to support the establishment of a California Wellness Trust, or other mechanism, to assure sustained, dedicated investment in preventing the leading causes of illness, injury, and premature death in California by addressing the root causes of these conditions in order to promote greater health equity, build healthier communities through community-based disease prevention and wellness efforts, and make our healthcare dollars go further.

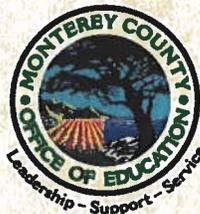
Passed and Adopted on the  
Fourteenth Day of August, 2019

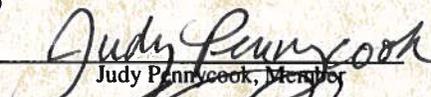
  
Janet Wohlgenuth, President

  
Ronald Panziera, Vice President

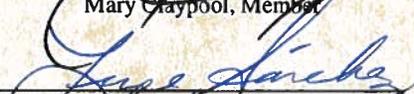
  
Harvey Kuffner, Member

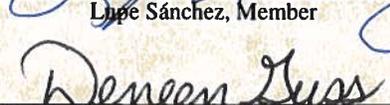
  
John McPherson, Member



  
Judy Pennycook, Member

  
Mary Claypool, Member

  
Lupe Sánchez, Member

  
Dr. Deneen Guss, Monterey County  
Superintendent of School