

Palisades Charter High School

Resolution

for

May 18th, 2021 Board Meeting

Sponsored by Gill

Co-sponsored by Rauschuber and Anderson

Resolution to commit Palisades Charter High School to make dedicated efforts to achieve energy efficiency, 100% clean renewable energy sources with focus on environmental justice and equity within the next 3-10 years, if financially feasible.

WHEREAS, We must transition off of fossil fuels to prevent catastrophic climate change all over the world;

WHEREAS, This threat endangers the livelihood of every community in California, particularly the futures of young generations and the generations to come;

WHEREAS, California is seeing decreased rainfall, increased forest fires and numerous, recent local fire evacuations, coastal erosion, species extinctions, and higher temperatures;

WHEREAS, Everything is at stake: our health, our infrastructure, our economy, and most importantly, our environment;

WHEREAS, LAUSD is LADWP's biggest customer, and most schools are among the largest fossil fuel energy consumers in a community;

WHEREAS, While solar renewable energy technology has improved and installation and maintenance costs have become cheaper and more readily available, traditional non-renewable energy is growing in cost;

WHEREAS, 100% clean energy is expected to allow PCHS to save money that could be used in the classroom;

WHEREAS, It is in the best interests of PCHS, as an independent charter, to periodically conduct energy audits to improve energy efficiency;

WHEREAS, PCHS, as an independent charter, has the right to conduct feasibility studies with service providers to determine the safety, cost-benefit, and feasibility of new technologies to increase our energy efficiency, and to explore the installation of solar solutions at Palisades Charter;

WHEREAS, Renewable energy plus battery storage is essential to reducing indirect carbon emissions, preventing energy disruptions and fighting the climate crisis;

WHEREAS, LAUSD and PCHS are committed to equity, justice and inclusion, and understand that the climate crisis disproportionately impacts low-income communities and communities of color;

WHEREAS, It is the PCHS mission to empower our diverse student population to make positive contributions to the global community by dedicating our resources to ensure Education Excellence, Civic Responsibility, and Personal Growth;

WHEREAS, The PCHS Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities declares (based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights):

See Preamble:

https://www.palihigh.org/ourpages/auto/2019/6/28/51452474/SBRR_Concern_Form_1_9_18.pdf?rnd=1561723472000

Article 1: The universal right to a school environment that is conducive to the achievement of everyone's fullest potential. Responsibility: everyone has the responsibility to protect and contribute to the realization of this right.

Article 14: Students have the right to learn and speak out about social and global problems related to justice, poverty, speech, etc., while on campus and, if the subject and teacher permit it, during class. Responsibility: Students have the responsibility to encourage speakers and presentations about issues of importance for the student body.

THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED that the PCHS Administrative team investigate the feasibility of transitioning PCHS to 100% clean, renewable energy, plus battery storage by commissioning subject matter experts to help PCHS issue RFPs (Request for Proposal) to associated service providers, with proposals due for Board consideration within the 2021-2022 school year.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the PCHS Administrative team commit to energy efficiency by establishing a schedule to review PCHS energy reports starting January 2022, and renew goals to improve energy-saving measures, and publish the results for review by the PCHS staff, students and local community.

FURTHER RESOLVED, PCHS will strive to embed sustainability and climate change education for students and employees into everyday teaching and learning, and increase student learning opportunities which empower students to fight the climate crisis and engage in the coming green jobs economy. The PCHS Administration and the HRW Student Task Force will facilitate the creation of a new Task Force composed of all stakeholder groups, tasked with

upholding all commitments stated in this resolution. The Task Force will meet on a quarterly basis for 9-Months each school year starting no later than September 2021 (Sep-Nov, Dec-Feb, Mar-May).