

1 [Digital Divide Task Force]
2 ESTABLISHING A JOINT BOARD OF EDUCATION/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS DIGITAL
3 DIVIDE TASK FORCE TO WORK TO AMELIORATE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE IN SAN
4 FRANCISCO BY ENSURING GREATER ACCESS TO THE TOOLS OF THE DIGITAL
5 ECONOMY AMONG DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES AND SETTING
6 FORTH THE MEMBERSHIP AND DUTIES OF THE TASK FORCE.

7
8 WHEREAS, Computer and Internet skills are becoming increasingly
9 important to succeed in school and in the workplace and as a means of
10 gathering information; and,

11 WHEREAS, According to a report released by the U.S. Commerce
12 Department in 1999, households with incomes of \$75,000 and higher are
13 more than twenty times as likely to have access to the Internet than
14 those at the lowest income levels and more than nine times as likely
15 to have a computer at home; and,

16 WHEREAS, Whites are more likely to have access to the Internet
17 from home than African Americans or Hispanics have from any location;
18 and,

19 WHEREAS, African American and Hispanic households are
20 approximately one-third as likely to have home Internet access as
21 households of Asian/Pacific Islander descent and roughly two-fifths
22 as likely as White households; and,

23 WHEREAS, The digital divides based on education and income have
24 increased in the last year alone; Between 1997 and 1998, the divide
25 between those at the highest and lowest education levels increased 25

1 percent and the divide between those at the highest and lowest income
2 levels grew 29 percent; and,

3 WHEREAS, According to a survey conducted by the Public Policy
4 Institute of California, nearly three-quarters of Bay Area residents
5 reported owning a computer at home, while only 40 percent of Latinos
6 reported such ownership; and

7 WHEREAS, Low income and minority students and their families
8 face barriers to computer and Internet access such as limited English
9 skills, the cost of equipment, the absence of home telephones, and a
10 lack of awareness about the resources and skills they can acquire
11 through computers and the Internet; and,

12 WHEREAS, While computers are still relatively expensive and
13 beyond the budget of many lower income families, providing machines
14 in public and communal spaces like schools, housing developments and
15 community centers and offering low cost or no cost training can
16 significantly increase computer and Internet use among disadvantaged
17 students and their families; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County
19 of San Francisco hereby establishes a task force, called the Joint
20 Board of Education/Board of Supervisors Digital Divide Task Force, to
21 work to ameliorate the digital divide in San Francisco by ensuring
22 greater access to the tools of the digital economy among
23 disadvantaged students and their families; and, be it

24 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Joint School Board/Board of
25 Supervisors Digital Divide Task Force ("Task Force") shall collect

1 and study data and reports that document the disparity in computer
2 and Internet access among different income and ethnic groups to the
3 extent that data is available and useful in supporting the mission of
4 the Task Force; and, be it

5 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall survey public and
6 private sector programs that currently exist to bring the tools of
7 the digital economy to disadvantaged children and their families and
8 determine where gaps in services and resources are; and, be it

9 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall monitor federal and
10 state policies and programs that are developed to address the digital
11 divide, shall take a position on proposed programs where appropriate,
12 and shall work to ensure that San Francisco receives its fair share
13 of any subsidies or benefits that are made available to disadvantaged
14 students and their families; and, be it

15 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall develop proposals
16 for local policies and programs that would guarantee greater access
17 to the tools of the digital economy among disadvantaged students and
18 their families, shall encourage the formation of public/private
19 partnerships to administer and implement such programs and policies,
20 and shall identify and secure funding to support such programs and
21 policies; and, be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall be made up of 18
23 members including two representatives from the Board of Supervisors
24 appointed by the Board of Supervisors, one representative from the
25 Department of Telecommunications and Information Services appointed

1 by the Department of Telecommunications and Information Services, one
2 representative from the Mayor's Office of Housing appointed by the
3 Mayor's Office of Housing, one representative from the Department of
4 Children, Youth and Their Families appointed by the Department of
5 Children, Youth and Their Families, one representative from the
6 Mayor's Office of Community Development appointed by the Mayor's
7 Office of Community Development; one representative from the
8 Department of Human Services appointed by the Department of Human
9 Services; one representative from the San Francisco Housing Authority
10 appointed by the San Francisco Housing Authority; one representative
11 from the San Francisco Board of Education appointed by the San
12 Francisco Board of Education; one representative from the Office of
13 the Superintendent of the San Francisco Unified School District
14 appointed by the Superintendent; one representative from the
15 Information Technology Systems Department of the San Francisco
16 Unified School District appointed by the Information Technology
17 Systems Department; one representative from the Financial Office of
18 the San Francisco Board of Education appointed by the Financial
19 Office; one representative from the Curriculum Instruction
20 Professional Development Department of the San Francisco Unified
21 School District appointed by the Curriculum Instruction and
22 Professional Development Department; two (2) representatives from
23 associations of private sector technology companies appointed by the
24 Board of Supervisors and (1) representative from an association of
25 private sector technology companies appointed by the Board of

SUPERVISOR BECERRIL
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1 Education; and one representative from a private not for profit
2 organizations that is working to ameliorate the digital divide
3 problem appointed by the Board of Supervisors, and one representative
4 from a private not for profit organization that is working to
5 ameliorate the digital divide problem appointed by the Board of
6 Education; and, be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED, That, once established, the Task Force shall
8 appoint a Chair and establish the frequency and timing of Task Force
9 meetings; and, be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED, That Department Human Services shall provide
11 staff support for the Task Force as needed; and, be it

12 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall report to the Joint
13 School Board/Board of Supervisors Committee of the Board of
14 Supervisors and the Board of Education at least every six months and
15 to the San Francisco Board of Education at least every six months;
16 and, be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall be established upon
18 enactment of this resolution and shall expire two years from the date
19 of enactment unless a majority of the members of the Board of
20 Supervisors and the Board of Education vote to terminate it sooner or
21 extend it further.



City and County of San Francisco

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Tails

Resolution

File Number: 000395

Date Passed:

Resolution establishing a Joint Board of Education/Board of Supervisors Digital Divide Task Force to work to ameliorate the digital divide in San Francisco by ensuring greater access to the tools of the digital economy among disadvantaged students and their families and setting forth the membership and duties of the task force.

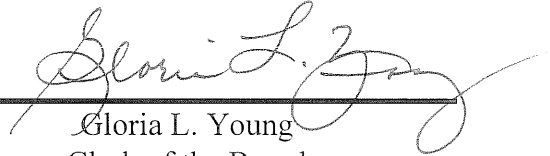
April 3, 2000 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 8 - Ammiano, Becerril, Katz, Kaufman, Leno, Newsom, Teng, Yee

Absent: 3 - Bierman, Brown, Yaki

File No. 000395

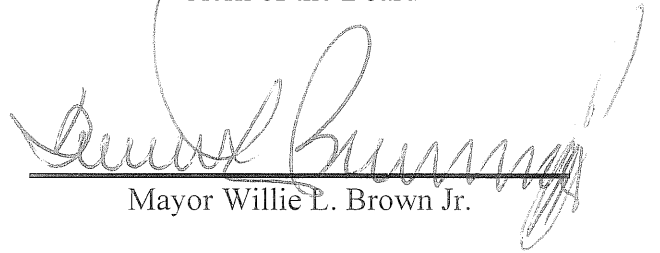
I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on April 3, 2000 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.



Gloria L. Young
Clerk of the Board

APR 14 2000

Date Approved



Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.