

1 [Urging the Our Children, Our Families Council to Convene a Chronic Absenteeism Working
2 Group]

3 **Resolution urging the Our Children, Our Families Council to convene and coordinate a**
4 **Chronic Absenteeism Working Group and to develop an action plan within six months**
5 **of their first meeting.**

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7 WHEREAS, Chronic Absenteeism is defined as missing more than 10% of the school
8 year; and

9 WHEREAS, In the 2014-2015 school year 40% of San Francisco Unified School
10 District Elementary Schools and 67% of high schools had a chronic absenteeism rate over
11 10%; and

12 WHEREAS, Students of Color, especially African American, Pacific Islander, and
13 Latino Students had chronic absenteeism rates that were disproportionately higher than then
14 the other students; and

15 WHEREAS, Data is showing that chronic absenteeism starts in preschool and impacts
16 a student's ability to read at grade level; and

17 WHEREAS, Students who cannot read at grade level by 3rd grade are 4 times more
18 likely to drop out of school; and

19 WHEREAS, Chronic absenteeism has an impact and consequences on students,
20 family, the community, and the system as a whole; and

21 WHEREAS, Reducing the rates of chronic absenteeism requires systematic and
22 coordinated support services including the education system, legal system, communities,
23 families, social services, and

24 WHEREAS, In November of 2014 Proposition C was passed by San Francisco voters
25 which created The Our Children, Our Families Council to align efforts across the city and

1 county, the school district, and the community with the aim of improving outcomes for
2 children, youth and families; and

3 WHEREAS, We must ensure that students, the school district, educators, and families
4 are equipped with the education, knowledge and supports in order to be successful; and

5 WHEREAS, One of the approved outcomes frameworks of the Our Children, Our
6 Families Council is regular attendance; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the Our Children, Our Families
8 Council to convene a Chronic Absenteeism Working Group; and, be it

9 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the working group shall include, but not limited to the
10 Executive Director of Pupil Services San Francisco Unified School District, or their designee,
11 the Chief of Student Family, and Community Support Division of San Francisco Unified
12 School District, or their designee, the Director of the Department of Children, Youth, and Their
13 Families, or designee, representatives from Office of Early Care and Education and or First 5
14 San Francisco, or their designee, the Director of Housing Opportunities, Partnerships and
15 Engagement (HOPE) SF, or their designee including Education Liaisons, designee from
16 Attendance Works, a designee from the California Attorney General's office, a designee from
17 the District Attorney office, representatives may also be sought from groups with expertise or
18 experience in addressing or advocating the reduction of chronic absenteeism including
19 service providers, those that work with homeless families, and parents; and, be it

20 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the working group shall develop a comprehensive plan
21 for strategies, messaging, and policy recommendations for the City and San Francisco Unified
22 School to reduce chronic absenteeism in public schools; and, be it

23 FURTHER RESOLVED, To align and coordinate services to children and families
24 provided by City departments, SFUSD, and community partners including a data sharing
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1 agreement between the San Francisco Unified School District and relevant City Departments;
2 and

3 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Plan shall include programmatic activities to support
4 students, parents, and schools sites; and, be it

5 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the multifaceted approach will consider, but not limited to
6 including and partnering with community based organizations, afterschool programs, and
7 families including outreach and working directly to families including options for home visiting;
8 and, be it

9 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the working group shall complete its work within 6
10 months from the date this Resolution is approved and report its findings to the Board of
11 Supervisors' Government Audit and Oversight Committee.

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