

1 [School Computer Literacy Project]
2 URGING THE SAN FRANCISCO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT TO ESTABLISH A
3 COMPUTER LITERACY PROJECT FOR ALL SCHOOLS IN THE BOTTOM 25TH
4 PERCENTILE, TO STRUCTURE THE PROGRAM AS A PUBLIC, PRIVATE NON-PROFIT
5 PARTNERSHIP, AND TO SEEK FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE PROGRAM FROM
6 PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS AND CORPORATIONS, PARTICULARLY THOSE THAT RECEIVE
7 REVENUES FROM THE COMPUTER INDUSTRY.

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

12 WHEREAS, Congress passed legislation requiring all Federal
13 payments with the exception of tax refunds be made electronically,
14 putting veterans, the disabled, retired federal workers, recipients
15 of Social Security and others without technology skills or access to
16 electronic communications at a considerable disadvantage; and,

17 WHEREAS, According to a report released by the U.S. Commerce
18 Department, 30% of white households and 26% of Asian households have
19 access to the Internet while only 12% of African American and 13% of
20 Latino households have home access; and,

21 WHEREAS, Even at the lowest income levels, a child in a white
22 family is three times as likely to have Internet access as a child in
23 a Hispanic family; and,

24
25

1 WHEREAS, Between 1997 and 1998 the disparity in Internet access
2 at home between those at the highest and lowest education levels
3 increased by 25%; and,

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

8 WHEREAS, Low income individuals and minorities face barriers to
9 computer access such as insufficient language skills, the cost of
10 equipment, the absence of home telephones, and a lack of awareness
11 about the importance of 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 spaces like schools can significantly increase access to
15 computers for low income and minority families; and,

16 WHEREAS, An estimated 90% of students at San Francisco schools
17 in the bottom 25th percentile, ranked in terms of a combination of
18 achievement and economic status, are minorities; and,

19 WHEREAS, There currently exists a three-year pilot program in
20 one San Francisco school that provides students with computers and
21 parents with computers, Internet access and training; and,

22 WHEREAS, As a result of the pilot project, participating
23 students' writing skills have improved and their parents have pursued
24 computer classes and have obtained employment or better jobs; now,
25 therefore, be it

SUPERVISOR BECERRIL
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County
2 of San Francisco urges the San Francisco Unified School District to
3 use what has been learned from the computer pilot project in one
4 school to establish a computer literacy project for all schools in
5 the bottom 25th percentile, ranked based on a combination of
6 achievement and academic status; and, be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and
8 County of San Francisco urges the San Francisco Unified School
9 District to structure the computer literacy project as a public,
10 private, non-profit venture; and, be it

11 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and
12 County of San Francisco urges the San Francisco Unified School
13 District to seek financial support for a citywide computer literacy
14 project from private foundations and corporations, particularly those
15 that receive revenues from the computer industry.



City and County of San Francisco

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

Tails

Resolution

File Number: 991838

Date Passed:

Resolution urging the San Francisco Unified School District to establish a computer literacy project for all schools in the bottom 25th percentile, to structure the program as a public, private non-profit partnership, and to seek financial support for the program from private foundations and corporations, particularly those that receive revenues from the computer industry.

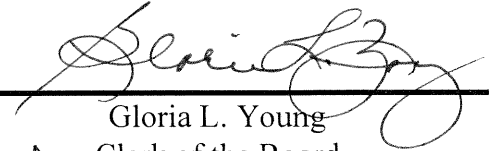
October 4, 1999 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 9 - Ammiano, Becerril, Bierman, Katz, Kaufman, Leno, Newsom, Yaki, Yee

Absent: 2 - Brown, Teng

File No. 991838

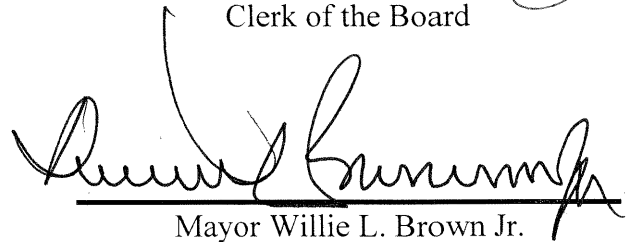
I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on October 4, 1999 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.



Gloria L. Young
Clerk of the Board

OCT 15 1999

Date Approved



Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.