

**BEFORE THE GOVERNING BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE DELANO JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
KERN COUNTY, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

In regards to)	
Empowering and Preparing)	RESOLUTION #2018/2019-04
Youth for a Stronger)	
Democracy)	

WHEREAS, voting is one of the most essential rights and responsibilities in a democratic society; and,

WHEREAS, young voters (18-24 years old) are typically unaware of the immense power of their voices in elections; and,

WHEREAS, creating a culture where young voters in Kern County know their power and their voices help transform them into habitual voters; and,

WHEREAS, 2018 is a midterm election year, and historically, midterm elections have low voter turnout rates; and,

WHEREAS, our freedom and democracy depend on how well our schools prepare students with decision making skills to make the most aware, prepared, and informed voters at the polls; and

WHEREAS, in Delano there are 7,598 young people (18-24 years old) and only 1,845 are registered to vote and only 135 young voters voted in the 2014 midterm election;

WHEREAS, with 4 million potential young voters in California, young voters can have a significant impact in their cities, counties, and state; and

WHEREAS, research shows that if young voters cast a ballot in two consecutive elections they are far more likely to become habitual lifetime voters; but young adults who fail to register to vote or who fail to vote in their first election are more likely to disengage for another decade and may only return as voters in their 30's; and

WHEREAS, National Voter Registration Day is September 25, 2018 and the California State Voter Registration deadline is October 22, 2018; and

WHEREAS, in 2014 SB 113 was signed by Governor Jerry Brown which allows voter pre-registration beginning at age 16; and

WHEREAS, in 2014 AB 1817 was signed by Governor Jerry Brown designating the last two full weeks in April and September as High School Voter Education Weeks to promote civic

education, democracy and an environment that encourages votes and allows school officials to designate students as voter outreach coordinators” on their high school campus; and

WHEREAS, in March 2018, California Secretary of State Alex Padilla encouraged all California high schools to participate in California High School Voter Education Weeks (April 16-27, 2018);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Board of the Delano Joint Union High School District declares September as “Delano Joint Union High School District Outreach Month for the 2018/2019 school year

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Governing Board of the Delano Joint Union High School District recognizes Tuesday, September 25, 2018, as “National Voter Registration Day”; and

That a Youth Voters Committee made up of four voter outreach coordinators may be established to ensure the implementation of the “Empowering and Preparing Youth Voters for a Stronger Democracy Resolution”; and

That the Youth Voters Committee be given support for voter outreach events on DJUHSD school sites; and

That the Youth Voters Committee be able to work with non-partisan civic engagement groups; and

That the Superintendent direct the appropriate departments to work with community members, local non-partisan groups, and the Kern County Election Department to ensure voter registration guides and materials, in multiple languages are available at every DJUHSD high school and adult school; and

That the Superintendent and school administrators support the voter outreach coordinators to be successful with voter registration drives and provide school site voter outreach coordinators with the estimated numbers of 16, 17 and 18 year old students as a basis for voter registration goals; and

That the Superintendent and Governing Board encourage District leadership to distribute voter registration cards to all high school seniors; and

That the Superintendent and Board Members encourage District leadership to share the importance of voting and to create a culture of voting; and

That the Superintendent and District leadership allow trained students and graduates to register high school students on campus during school non-instructional hours; and

That the Governing Board encourages schools to offer opportunities for students to engage in service learning projects geared towards voter registration and poll worker programs.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED upon motion of Trustee _____,
seconded by Trustee _____, at a regular meeting held this 11th day of September 2018 by the
following vote:

AYES: _____ NOES: _____ ABSENT: _____

President, Board of Trustees
Delano Joint Union High School District