

**Alameda County Board of Education
and
Alameda County Superintendent of Schools**

Resolution No. 1913

**Free Transit Bus Passes for Middle and Senior High School
Students**

A resolution supporting a proposal to request funds from the Alameda County Transportation Commission provide funds to AC Transit, LAVTA and Union City for free bus passes, via Clipper, to every middle (junior) and senior high school student in Alameda County as a part of the proposed reauthorization of Measure B in November 2012, and to direct the Superintendent to provide reasonable staff time to support this effort during the Measure B reauthorization process. Further, ACOE will seek reimbursement for reasonable expenses connected with this bus pass program.

WHEREAS, the Alameda County Transportation Commission is engaged in a process that will result in an expenditure plan for a sales tax to be voted on in the general election of 2012; and

WHEREAS, home to school transportation by transit bus is superior to driving an automobile in terms of student health, traffic congestion, greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution emissions, as noted in Bay Area Transportation Greenhouse Gas Strategies, a report commissioned by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and received in 2009 ; and

WHEREAS, transit bus service allows parents of students to do other activities; and

WHEREAS, participation in after school activities is expected to increase with the provision of the free bus pass program; and

WHEREAS, provision of free bus passes helps ensures equal access to education regardless of income; and

WHEREAS, provision of free bus passes has shown to increase transit use amongst young people, thus creating a healthy habit and developing the next generation of transit users; and

WHEREAS, increasing transit use is essential to reducing driving and Greenhouse Gas emissions, and meeting the challenge of climate change;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Alameda County Board of Education and the Alameda County Superintendent of Schools do resolve as follows:

Section 1. ACOE and the Superintendent will make a formal request of the 2012 Measure B authorities to make a part of the expenditure plan the provision of additional funds to permit AC Transit, LAVTA and Union City Transit to provide “free” bus passes, via Clipper, to all middle and senior high school students living within the service areas of the three transit operators.

Section 2. The Superintendent will provide staff support to determine the cost of providing free transit to all middle and senior high school students living in Alameda County.

Section 3. The Superintendent will provide staff support as necessary and seek reimbursement for reasonable expenses connected with this bus pass program.

Section 4. The Superintendent will promulgate an educational campaign in the schools to educate students about the peril of greenhouse gases and climate change, how taking transit buses is a positive step towards reducing car travel and greenhouse gas production, and promoting sustainable communities.

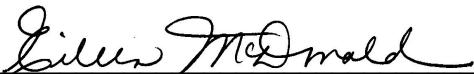
PASSED and ADOPTED this 10th day of May, 2011.

AYES: 7

NOES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0



Eileen McDonald, President
Alameda County Board of Education



Sheila Jordan, Superintendent
Alameda County Office of Education