



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, ROOM 335, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101-2470

AGENDA ITEM

DATE: October 9, 2001

TO: Board of Supervisors

SUBJECT: BRINGING THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE BACK TO THE CLASSROOM (DISTRICT: All)

SUMMARY:

Overview

In the wake of the worst terrorist attacks in United States history, San Diego County and the Nation are experiencing a resurgence of American patriotism. Without regard to age, creed, ethnicity, gender, or political affiliation, many San Diegans are looking for ways to show support for the United States. Brian Wheeler is one such American.

Brian Wheeler is a Santana High School senior and the student representative on the Grossmont Union High School District Board of Trustees. This month, he will propose that the Pledge of Allegiance be formally reinstated within the Grossmont Union High School District. While the school district allows for the Pledge of Allegiance and other patriotic observances on campuses, it does not designate a specific time period for the Pledge of Allegiance, particularly in the district's high schools. Brian will propose that the school district designate a moment for students to recite the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of each school day.

Today's action supports a designated recitation time for the Pledge of Allegiance in school classrooms.

Recommendation(s)

SUPERVISOR JACOB AND SUPERVISOR COX:

1. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to draft a letter for the Chair's signature to the Grossmont Union High School District issuing support for Brian Wheeler in his quest to urge the district to designate a moment for students to recite the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of each school day.
2. Adopt the attached Resolution expressing the Board's support for a daily recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance in classrooms.
3. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to draft a letter for the Chair's signature

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urging all school districts to reinstate the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of each school day, if they do not already recite it, and to send the letter to all County school districts.

Fiscal Impact

These actions can be performed within the existing budget.

BACKGROUND:

In the wake of the worst terrorist attacks in United States history, San Diego County and the Nation is experiencing a resurgence of American patriotism. Businesses are awash in red, white and blue decorative lighting. The American flag is posted in the windows of homes and cars. An impressive number of County employees are displaying Old Glory on their lapels while community groups and service organizations work feverishly to raise money for the families of victims on the East Coast.

Following the attacks, the County of San Diego acted quickly to show its support for the United States by passing a resolution in support of President George W. Bush. The Board committed funds to the San Diego County Blood Bank hoping to ease incremental costs of local blood donations after September 11, 2001. The Board unanimously agreed not to alter the incomes of military reservists employed by the County should the reservists be called to active duty.

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Today's action supports a designated recitation time for the Pledge of Allegiance in school classrooms, adopts a resolution expressing the Board's support for a daily recitation of the Pledge of Pledge of Allegiance in classrooms, and urges other school districts to reinstate the daily Pledge of Allegiance. It lends support to Brian Wheeler and other students who wish to recite the Pledge of Allegiance in their classrooms. We urge your support.

Respectfully submitted,

DIANNE JACOB
Supervisor, Second District

GREG COX
Supervisor, First District

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AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET

CONCURRENCE(S)

COUNTY COUNSEL REVIEW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	
Written Disclosure per County Charter Section 1000.1 Required	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
GROUP/AGENCY FINANCE DIRECTOR	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Requires Four Votes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
GROUP/AGENCY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
COUNTY TECHNOLOGY OFFICE	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A

Other Concurrence(s):

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT:

CONTACT PERSON(S):

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE: _____

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AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET
(continued)

PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOARD ACTIONS:

BOARD POLICIES APPLICABLE:

BOARD POLICY STATEMENTS:

CONTRACT NUMBER(S):

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

DEPARTMENT:
PROGRAM:
PROPOSAL:

	(a)	(b)	(c)	FUTURE YEARS ESTIMATED BUDGET OF PROPOSAL IF ADOPTED	
	Budgeted Amount For Proposal	Proposed Change in Budgeted Amount	Proposed Revised Current Year Budget (a+b)	(d) 1st Subsequent Year	(e) 2nd Subsequent Year
Direct Cost					
Revenue/Other Offset					
NET GENERAL FUND COST					
Staff Years					

Sources of Revenue/Other Offset for Proposed Change and Subsequent Years:

Space-Related Impacts: Will this proposal result in any additional space requirements? Yes N/A

Support/Other Departmental Impacts: Yes N/A

Remarks: Yes N/A