Honoring Vera Jacobson, Ed.D. on Her Retirement

Whereas, Vera Jacobson has enjoyed a 27-year career in education, during which she taught at elementary, middle, and high school levels in History/Social Studies, English Language Arts, and Drama; and

Whereas, Ms. Jacobson found her passion for teaching high school students, especially those who are underserved, marginalized, and disenfranchised, and served as a California Partnership Academy Program teacher and School Site Chair, as well as co-founder of the Biotechnology Institute (BTI), a program focused on increasing equity, academic success, and college and career readiness for students of color and English learners; and

Whereas, Ms. Jacobson’s drive to provide our most vulnerable students with access to equity, excellence, rigor, relevance, and college and career preparation lead her to the field of Career and Technical Education (CTE) where she served as a CTE leader for the Sequoia Union High School District before moving to become a Coordinator and then Director of CTE at the San Mateo County Office of Education (SMCOE); and

Whereas, Ms. Jacobson expanded her expertise by earning a Master’s Degree in Creative Arts in 1992 followed by an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership and Social Justice in 2013; and

Whereas, during her time as CTE Director at SMCOE, Ms. Jacobson forged relationships with many industry leaders, created an internship program, and successfully lobbied local legislators, including Senator Jerry Hill and Assembly members Marc Berman and Kevin Mullin, for increased support and funding for CTE; and

Whereas, Ms. Jacobson personifies professionalism, integrity, and the drive for excellence, and has given her all in service to equity and social justice ensuring all students are afforded the opportunity to successfully engage in the workforce and earn a living wage; and

Whereas, Ms. Jacobson is an outgoing and social person who dedicates her personal time to her family and her local community;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the San Mateo County Board of Education and the San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools congratulate Vera Jacobson on her 27 years of dedicated service to the students of San Mateo County and wish her the best in her retirement.