

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE KERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT**

RESOLUTION NO. 10

October 6, 2015

Support for Increased Public Investment in Community College

WHEREAS, community colleges are the largest group of higher education institutions in the United States, educating more than 46% of all undergraduate students and more than 5 million non-credit students; and

WHEREAS, for years, California's political and higher education leaders have worked hard to maintain affordability of a community college education, and our state master plan has always envisioned free higher education, even as we have struggled with the volatility of state funding, and

WHEREAS, thousands of students cannot afford the full price of a community college education as they juggle lives complicated by holding full- time and part-time jobs and caring for children, spouses, and parents , and

WHEREAS, more than 60 percent of California's community college students are eligible for a waiver of their academic fees, yet college costs much more when including living expenses, textbooks and transportation; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 60% of job openings will require at least an associate degree or higher by 2020; and

WHEREAS, the average annual rate of return for United States taxpayers' investments in community colleges is 14.3%; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Promise, America's College Promise, and related initiatives that offer tuition-free community college educations across our nation recognize that community colleges are integral to prosperity in the United States, and

WHEREAS, there is an increasing need for greater public support to provide millions of graduates for a well-educated workforce each year; and

WHEREAS, the national Association of Community College Trustees strongly supports the College Promise Campaign to foster the national conversation and advance public understanding about the significance of community colleges to the nation's well-being and the future of our democracy in the 21st century;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that We, the Board of Trustees of the Kern Community College District, do hereby formally support free community college education and the College Promise Campaign, which calls for increased public investment in community colleges at the local, state, and federal levels to increase success for students and families for generations to come.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Trustees of the Kern Community College District on
this day of _____, 2015, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE KERN
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

By:

President, Board of Trustees

I, Sandra V. Serrano, Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Kern Community College District of the Counties of Kern, Inyo, Mono, Tulare, and San Bernardino, State of California, do hereby certify that the above Resolution was duly passed and adopted by said Board of Trustees at an official meeting thereof held at its regular place of meeting at the time and by the vote stated, which Resolution is on file in the office of said Board.

Sandra V. Serrano, Secretary

Board of Trustees