

SFPD Out of SFUSD PreK-12th Grade Schools Resolution

Whereas, in the United States, 1.7 million students are in schools with police officers, but no counselors; 3 million are in schools with police, but no nurses; 6 million are in schools with police but no school psychologists; and 10 million are in schools with police but no social workers; and

Whereas, in 2019, a UESF member had to suffer the pain of seeing his son, a Latinx student, on television news being led out of his high school in handcuffs by police, and his parents had not been contacted, a very traumatic incident that led to changes in the law; and

Whereas, Black Lives Matter; and

Whereas, negative encounters with the police in the lives of Black and Brown children and youth are disproportionately high compared with those of other children and youth; and

Whereas, even one negative encounter with a police officer can have severe, negative consequences over the long term in the life of a Black or Brown student (*Color by Number: Understanding Racism Through Facts and Stats on Children*, just one of many sources); and

Whereas the protection of racist and violent actions of the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) including the extrajudicial murders of San Francisco residents and the racist text message scandal, do not align with the values of UESF or the school district,

Whereas, many UESF members organized and spoke at the June 2 Board of Education Budget Committee meeting, and even more at the June 9 Board of Education meeting, to demand that SFUSD discontinue its Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD); and

Whereas, people are rising up around the country and the world, demanding an end to police violence against Black and Brown people; and

Whereas, Youth are leading the national conversation on the failure of policing to protect the lives and health of communities of color and the need for community driven public safety; and

Whereas, the SFPD budget is \$703 million and the SFUSD budget is about \$1 billion and has a projected deficit of at least \$20 million for the 2020-2021 school year deficit for 2020 SY; and

Whereas, a study showed that Black youth comprise 63% of all juvenile arrests in San Francisco while African Americans comprise only 5-6% of San Francisco's population; and

Whereas, SFUSD's Restorative Justice practice program and other Student, Family, and Community Support Department (SFCSD) programs have been cut for the upcoming school year, at a time that our students need increased resources in mental health services, trauma informed social emotional learning curriculum, Ethnic Studies, arts programs, restorative justice programs, and other resources to help them heal, grow, and build collectively; and

Whereas, Richmond, California, Portland, Denver, and Minneapolis school districts, among others, have terminated their contracts with their cities' police departments; and

Whereas, it is our duty and as educators to support our babies, children, and youth, who must be seen, heard, and believed; and

Whereas, San Francisco public schools have increasingly been under-resourced while SFPD and law enforcement agency budgets have grown; and

Whereas, in cities around the country, including San Francisco, there is discussion and action being taken by local government agencies and Community Based Organizations towards diverting funds currently allocated to police departments to school districts and Black communities; and

Whereas, the issue of SFUSD discontinuing its MOU with the SFPD remains unresolved; and

Whereas, UESF has long advocated for SFUSD to:

- Prioritize mental and behavioral health screening, services, and referrals for students experiencing trauma and toxic stress.
- Create and maintain space for professional consultation among staff supporting student behaviors.
- Provide educators with the tools to teach culturally relevant Social Emotional Learning strategies throughout all grades.
- Provide professional development and staff support to implement restorative practices and cultural humility and competency; and

Whereas, UESF stands in support of our students, who are best supported in their schools by compassionate educators, including trained counselors, social workers, nurses, Wellness Center coordinators, and other staff with experience in de-escalation and trauma-informed practices;

Therefore, be it resolved that UESF calls for SFUSD to discontinue its MOU, so that there is no MOU, with the SFPD; and

Be it further resolved that UESF will let SFUSD know it is interested in finding alternative protocols for meeting Child Protection Service requirements that does not prioritize contacting SFPD as well as promoting existing community school models that focus on building strong relationships instead of centering the police in order to guarantee safety; and

Be it further resolved that UESF call on the City and County of San Francisco to divert significant funding from the SFPD and law enforcement agencies to the SFUSD specifically to fund the positions and practices included above; and

Be it finally resolved that UESF will publicize our call to discontinue SFUSD's MOU with SFPD through our social media outlets, including an online letter for UESF members to sign, calling for the discontinuation of the SFUSD/SFPD MOU.

Resources:

[Addressing Law Enforcement violence as a Public Health Issue Policy Statement of the American Public Health Association](#)

[Resolution of CFA- SFSU condemning police brutality](#)

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Solomon, Jade Rivera, Earl Lene De Santiago, Brittany O'Connor, Frank Lara, Ken Tray, Anthony Arinwine, Anabel Ibáñez, Carolyn Samoa, Claire Merced