

CAPISTRANO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
San Juan Capistrano, California

**RESOLUTION NO. 1819-39**

**FUNDING FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES**

*WHEREAS*, special education is a federal and state mandated education program that entitles children with disabilities to receive a free appropriate public education; and

*WHEREAS*, California provides educational services to more than 700,000 children with identified disabilities; and

*WHEREAS*, California's neutral funding formula (Assembly Bill [AB] 602) does not adequately or equitably provide the necessary funding to pay for the increasing costs of providing educational services to students with disabilities; and

*WHEREAS*, special education AB 602 funding rates among Special Education Local Plan Areas (SELPA) vary considerably without justification; and

*WHEREAS*, the Legislative Analyst's Office has consistently recommended that the Legislature equalize special education AB 602 funding rates; and

*WHEREAS*, there has been a significant increase in the population of preschool-age children with autism, many of whom require intensive services; and

*WHEREAS*, California does not fund average daily attendance (ADA) or special education services for preschool-aged children with disabilities; and

*WHEREAS*, preschool-age children with disabilities who receive high-quality care and education before kindergarten are 40 percent to 60 percent less likely to need special education interventions when they reach school age; and

*WHEREAS*, funding preschool programs for children with disabilities provides educational and social benefits that results in significant future cost savings to state and local educational agencies (LEAs); and

*WHEREAS*, in March 2015, the California Statewide Special Education Task Force issued a report recommending the state establish a new preschool funding mechanism and equalize AB 602 base funding rates; and

*WHEREAS*, the current amount of funding for students with significant disabilities, such as autism, blindness, deafness or severe orthopedic impairments, is far below amounts necessary to support their education; and

*WHEREAS*, the cost of materials, equipment, technology, and/or specialized services necessary for these students far exceed the per-ADA amount provided, with the average costs estimated at \$17,600 and can be as high as \$40,000; and

*WHEREAS*, the Governor's 2019-2020 State Budget proposal attempts to address the needs for students with disabilities for a small subset of LEAs, but does not propose any additional funding for these critical special education funding issues statewide; and

*WHEREAS*, AB 428 (Medina, D-Riverside) would increase and equalize AB 602 base funding rates, establish a funding mechanism for preschool programs for children with disabilities, provide additional funding for students with the most intensive needs, and address declining enrollment SELPAs; and

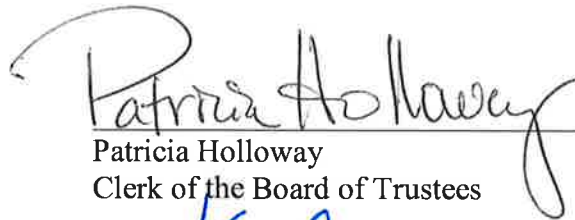
*WHEREAS*, the Capistrano Unified School District supports increased funding for special education equalization, the creation of a preschool funding mechanism for children with disabilities, and additional resources for students with high-cost disabilities as proposed in AB 428 (Medina); and

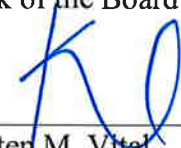
*NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED* that the Board of Trustees of the Capistrano Unified School District urges Governor Gavin Newsom and the California State Legislature to support and fund AB 428 (Medina).

*PASSED AND ADOPTED* by the Board of Trustees of the Capistrano Unified School District on April 25, 2019, by the following vote:

AYES	( 6 )
NOES	( 0 )
ABSTAIN	( 0 )
ABSENT	( 1 )

I, Patricia Holloway, of the Capistrano Unified School District Board of Trustees, hereby certify that the above and foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly adopted by the said Board at the meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of April 2019, by a roll call vote.

  
Patricia Holloway  
Clerk of the Board of Trustees

  
Kirsten M. Vital  
Superintendent  
Secretary of the Board of Trustees