

June 9, 2004

To: The Fresno Unified School District Board of Trustees:

A profound concern over the epidemic of obesity and Type 2 diabetes in our children is shared by The Fresno Unified School District, Fresno Metro Ministry Hunger and Nutrition Project Child Nutrition Task Group, and the larger Fresno community.

We believe that the fastest, most concrete way to immediately address this epidemic in Fresno is to create a district- wide Healthy School Environment Policy. This will support and build on work already underway within FUSD, and partner with the many agencies and resources working with nutrition and health issues for our children.

Our goal is to enhance our schools' learning environment by providing access to good food options, physical activity, and nutrition education for lifelong health. We request that Fresno Unified School District Board of Trustees appoint a Healthy School Nutrition Policy Committee to bring this to reality.

Signed:

Individuals

Edie Jessup
Ken Hecht
Marian Mosely
Helen Jones, MD
Robbie Cranch
Louise Bauer
Tim Reese
Vickie Fouts
Gwen Huff
Miguel Gavaldon
John Donaldson
Joan Schlesing
Ramon Gonzales, Director
Brandi Caporusso
Gwen Huff
Tracy Pepper

Organizations

-Fresno Metro Ministry, Hunger & Nutrition Project
-California Food Policy Advocates
-Fresno/Madera Medical Society Alliance
-Fresno Madera Medical Society President.
-University of California Cooperative Extension
-Central California Children's Institute, CUSF
-Community Food Bank
-Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
-California Alliance with Family Farmers
-Barrios Unidos
-Local Health Care Coalition
-California Council of Churches, Child Care Project
-Health Care For All-California (HCA)
-American Cancer Society, Fresno
-California Alliance of Family Farmers
-League of Women Voters
-California Center for Public Health Advocacy

Joe Herzog, Chair, Region 28, CAHPERD, President, Fresno Alliance for Physical Education and Athletics - Mayor's Fitness Council

Dovey Herzog

Dr. Edward Moreno, Fresno County Public Health Officer

Dr. John Scholefield, M.D.

Dr. Melissa Aguirre, M.D.

Richard L. Brandt-Kreutz, LCSW

Carole Chamberlain, TCE Program Officer

Michelle Villanueva

Phoua Moua

Phyllis Preciado, M.D

Chris Schneider

Theresia Rogerson, MPH

Dr. David Pepper

William Musso, SPHN

Pouran Nowzari, Ed.D; R.D.

Robin Wood

Rev. Ken Smiley

Lydia Velasco

LeeAnn Parry

Terri Soares, R.D

Melissa Ortiz, MA, RD, CDE

V. Diane Scott

Susan Arpad, Ph.D.

Ellie Bluestein

Paulette Fleming

Lali Witrigo,

Rosetta Johnson

Carol Bequette

Karen Gillian, R.D.,

Virginia Makini

Christine Martinez Santana

Deborah Johnson

**Proposal to FUSD Board of Trustees on formation of a
Healthy School Environment Committee
to deliver *Policy* recommendations to the Board.**

WHEREAS: Fresno Unified School District is committed to providing an environment in which students make nutritious food choices for lifelong health; and

WHEREAS: the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has declared that obesity is the fastest growing preventable health threat in the United States, with obesity nearing tobacco as the number one preventable health threat, and according to the Center for Public Health Advocacy 30%-40% of our children are overweight and unfit; and Fresno County Public Health Officer identifies obesity, type 2 diabetes, and asthma as the most pervasive public health problems facing Fresno; and

WHEREAS: today's children and youth have poor dietary habits and lack sufficient physical activity resulting in high percentages of overweight children, and in the past 30 years, the percentages have tripled in the United States, with Latino, African American, Native American and Asian children disproportionately affected; and

WHEREAS: the California Department of Education reported more than two-thirds of 5th, 7th, and 9th graders in Fresno Unified School District failed the Physical Fitness test, and are overweight or at risk of becoming overweight, and face an increased risk of chronic diseases such as asthma, type 2 diabetes, heart disease, and high blood pressure, as well as social stigma and depression; and

WHEREAS: research has found a clear connection between good nutrition and student achievement, and schools that have implemented healthy school meals programs report fewer behavioral problems; and

WHEREAS: increased participation in the District School Breakfast and Lunch program provides a nutritional benefit to children, as well as a positive revenue benefit to the District, and

WHEREAS: school programs have found funding to overhaul or replace vending contracts when a nutrition plan has been adopted, and

WHEREAS: in order to respond to the current obesity epidemic effectively, the Fresno Unified School District must improve in the areas of nutrition, physical fitness, and nutrition education, as well as support a healthy nutrition policy for all school sponsored events, and

WHEREAS: as the fourth largest school district in California, and the largest school district in the Central Valley, Fresno will be a leader and mentor to other school districts by adopting a Healthy School Environment Policy: and

WHEREAS: the Fresno Unified School Board can appoint a Healthy School Environment Policy Committee to deliver recommendations for the adoption of a comprehensive obesity prevention for Fresno Unified School District, and

WHEREAS: the Committee for a Healthy School Environment should include these Stakeholders: Student, Parent, Teacher, Site Administrator, District Administrator; Food Services; Physical Education; Nurse; Physician; Dentist; Hospital; Counselor; Union; Public Health; Education/Research; School Financial/Contracting; Community Based Organizations who work with low income families; Registered Dietician; the Farming community; local government representative; and low income residents; and

WHEREAS: The Committee for a Healthy School Environment Policy should prepare recommendations including, but not limited to:

1. Nutrition standards for snack food and beverage sales
2. Proposals to mitigate fiscal impact of restrictions on sales
3. Steps to increase consumption of fruit and vegetables
4. Steps to increase participation in reimbursable meal programs
5. Expansion of nutrition education efforts
6. Establish a process to assess physical activity programs

THEREFORE: to ensure comprehensive **HEALTHY SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT POLICY** the Fresno Unified School Board will appoint a **HEALTHY SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** that represents the diverse cultural, racial, and religious groups that reflect our community, and includes representation from the Stakeholder List. This committee will work in open public meetings. This Committee will report findings and recommend policy to the FUSD Board of Trustees. The preliminary Report is to be presented by the Committee to the FUSD Board within 90 days, with a Final **Healthy School Environment Policy Proposal** for the FUSD Board's consideration and adoption in 120 days from the appointment of the Committee.

Approved 6/9/04
Consent Agenda A-10
7 – Aye
0 - No

Proposed Stakeholders who *should* be represented on the Committee, and a partial list of community members who *might* serve on the Committee

<u>Stakeholders:</u>	<u>Possible Representatives</u>
Students	CART, Dr's Academy; Sequoia Middle School student, Stefanie (Student Rep to Supt. J. O'Connell's Task Force from Fresno)
Parent	Michelle Villanueva; Parent Engagement Center Liaison; New Leaders for Better Health; PTA
Teacher	Representative Classroom teachers; FTA Bargaining Unit
Site Administrator	Principal: Maureen Moore, Sequoia Middle School
District Administrator	Board Designee
Food Services	Designee of Billie Richardson; EOC Food Services;
Physical Education	John Mauer, or Jennifer Jordan, Sequoia Middle School; Dovey Herzog, Yosemite middle School; Joe Herzog, Mayor's Fitness Council; Wade Gilbert, PhD-CSUF Kinesiology; Brian Demars, FPU –Chair PE Dept.
Nurse	Bobbie Shepard, RN, Linda Mroz, RN Kaiser
Physician	Phyllis Preciado, Ruth Avila, George Lopez, Ron Smith; Don Gaede, Dr. Helen Jones, MD; Dr. Robert L Bennett
Dentist	Clarence Chau, DDS; Gregory Miyake, DDS, School Dentists
Hospitals	Tim Curley; Children's Hospital
Counselor	School Councilors, FUSD Social Workers/Student Services; Geoff Smith, Lynnette Bassman;
Union	Local representative: teachers and classified
Public Health	Dr. Ed Moreno; William Musso, SOHN, Child Health and Disability Prevention Program; Ramon Gonzales, Health Care for All; Julie Olguin-Molina, Ca. Health Collaborative
Health Care Programs	Blue Cross, Health Net, Kaiser
Education/Research	Felicia Greer, Ph.D, UCSF Residents program; CSUF Nutrition (Connie Schneider)
School Financial/Contracting	Paul Disario
Community Based Organization(s) who work with low income families:	Fresno Metro Ministry (Edie Jessup), West Fresno Health Care Coalition; Centro La Familia; CCLS;; EOC; Center for New Am.; Stone Soup; FIRM; University of Ca Cooperative Extension (Nutrition); Joe Herzog, CAHPERD; Fresno Health Consumer Center
Registered Dietician	Angel Pounce, R.D., Central Valley Dietetic Association; Kelly Holt, R.D, Beth Arrindell, R.D.; Pouran Nowzari, Ed.D., R.D., Child Health and Disability Prevention Program
Farming Community:	Ca. Alliance with Family Farmers, Gwen Huff; African Am. Farmers Association, Will Scott; Hmong Farmers Association; Lao Farmers; United Farm Workers
Local Government	City Council Representative
Low Income Representatives:	New Leaders for Better Health (Fresno Metro Ministry).