

A RESOLUTION OF THE CALIFORNIA PARTNERSHIP FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE K-12 EDUCATION WORK GROUP TO THE PREK-12 EDUCATION WORK GROUP.

WHEREAS, the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley ("Partnership") was established by Executive Order S-22-06 to focus attention on one of the most vital, yet challenged regions of the state and implement changes that would improve the economic well-being of the Valley and the quality of life of its residents; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Partnership has ten work groups each assigned to carry out the goals and recommendations in the Strategic Action Proposal; and,

**WHEREAS**, the mission of the K-12 Education Work Group is to implement policies and programs through public-private partnerships to ensure equal access to educational opportunities and resources for all children that will improve academic performance; and,

**WHEREAS**, based on solid research and recommendations of the California Governor's Committee on Education Excellence and many other major reports to prepare our children for success from the earliest age, the expansion of quality Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten opportunities for children is a critical foundation to continuous improvement in education; and,

**WHEREAS**, children who attend quality Pre-Kindergarten early childhood school and Kindergarten programs perform better on standardized achievement tests in reading and math, exhibit more positive behaviors in the classroom, are more likely to graduate from high school and continue their education and be more prosperous as adults; and,

**WHEREAS**, Pre-Kindergarten programs fall under the jurisdiction of California's educational systems and have been historically overlooked and underfunded in terms of their relative importance to the educational success of children; and,

**WHEREAS**, Pre-Kindergarten is a significant mechanism to address needs of children in poverty and English Learners as well as English-speaking children residing in the San Joaquin Valley; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** BY THE CALIFORNIA PARTNERSHIP FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY that the Board of Directors supports raising the relative importance of young children and officially changes the name of the K-12 Education Work Group to PreK-12 Education Work Group In order to ensure that young children are equally represented in the work of the Partnership.

PASSED APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 13<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2008, by the board of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley.

Connie Conway, Chair

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