

RESOLUTION NO. 19/20-33

RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE WILLIAM S. HART UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT ADOPTING TEMPORARY CHANGES TO GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AT BOWMAN HIGH SCHOOL AND DELEGATING POWERS TO THE SUPERINTENDENT

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the Governor of California declared a State of Emergency due to the outbreak and spread of a novel coronavirus (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, the Governor of California issued an executive order directing all individuals living in the State of California to stay home or at their place of residence, with limited exception, until further notice; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the William S. Hart Union High School District (“District”) closed its schools to protect students and staff against the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, due to safety concerns and the need for ongoing social distancing, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction stated it appears students will not return to school campuses before the end of the 2019/2020 school year; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to ensure the continuation of public education, to the greatest extent possible, while maintaining the health and safety of the students and staff; and

WHEREAS, the District’s Governing Board (“Board”) is committed to continued teaching and learning, including assessment and evaluation of work, through alternative means during this prolonged period of school closure; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that the Superintendent have the tools to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of students, staff, and families on and off campuses, and to ensure that the educational needs of all students are addressed through alternate locations, virtual learning environments, and/or temporary changes in policies; and

WHEREAS, Bowman High School is a continuation high school in which students are enrolled in lieu of attending a traditional comprehensive high school; and

WHEREAS, Bowman High School offers a customized alternative program with smaller class sizes and more individualized support; and

WHEREAS, Bowman High School’s grading program is different than those at other comprehensive high school sites and its credit recovery system calls for students to simultaneously complete current grade level requirements while also taking courses for credit recovery; and

WHEREAS, the District, like many other school districts in California, has adopted a policy setting graduation requirements beyond the legal requirements contained in the Education Code; and

WHEREAS, students who are seniors at Bowman High School are presently required to earn 230 credits to graduate high school; and

WHEREAS, 72.5 credits of the required 230 credits come from elective courses; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 school closure has interfered and/or prevented with Bowman High School staffs' ability to employ many of the personalized strategies necessary to help students stay on track for graduation; and

WHEREAS, despite persistent efforts to connect with Bowman High School students, a disproportionately large number of them have fallen behind, are not regularly completing coursework, and are at risk of not graduating; and

WHEREAS, District staff desires to temporarily reduce the number of elective credits required to graduate from Bowman High School to enable students and teachers to focus exclusively on core academic requirements; and

WHEREAS, Bowman High School's administrative staff believes this is a significant and necessary step to keep students on track to graduate; and

WHEREAS, District staff recommends reducing the amount of required elective credits by 10 for the 2019/2020 school year, which means current Bowman High School seniors will be required to earn 62.5 elective credits in order to graduate.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board does hereby find, determine, resolve, and order as follows:

1. All of the above-listed recitals are incorporated herein by this reference and shall hereinafter be deemed to be the findings of the Board.
2. The District's Board Policies/Administrative Regulations 6146.1 and 6146.11 shall be temporarily modified, as set forth herein, during the period of school closure. To the extent there is a conflict between this Resolution and Board Policies/Administrative Regulations 6146.1 and 6146.11, the terms and intent of this Resolution shall control.
3. For Bowman High School seniors in the class of 2020 (inclusive of summer 2020 graduates), the number of elective credits required to graduate high school shall be reduced from 72.5 credits to 62.5 credits. In turn, the foregoing reduction also alters the total credits necessary to graduate from 230 credits to 220 credits.
4. The Board hereby delegates to the Superintendent, and his designee(s), authority to take all actions and execute all other documents reasonably necessary to carry out the intent of, and the authorities delegated under, this Resolution.
5. The authority granted pursuant to this resolution, and the graduation policy modifications herein, shall be valid until the conclusion of the 2019/2020 school year presently scheduled to end on June 4, 2020, and to include summer 2020 graduates, unless extended by the Board.

APPROVED, ADOPTED, AND SIGNED on May 6, 2020.

**GOVERNING BOARD OF THE
WILLIAM S. HART UNION HIGH
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

By: _____
Linda Storli, President of the Governing
Board of the William S. Hart Union High
School District

By: _____
Dr. Cherise Moore, Clerk of the Governing
Board of the William S. Hart Union High
School District

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES)

I, Dr. Cherise Moore, Clerk of the Governing Board of the William S. Hart Union High School District, do hereby certify that: (i) the Governing Board duly approved and adopted the foregoing Resolution No. 19/20-33 during its regular meeting on May 6, 2020; (ii) an agenda and notice of such meeting were prepared and posted as required by law; (iii) a quorum of the Governing Board was present and acting throughout such meeting; and (iv) the Governing Board approved and adopted Resolution No. 19/20-33 by the following rollcall vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

By: _____
Dr. Cherise Moore, Clerk of the Governing
Board of the William S. Hart Union High
School District

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES)

I, Dr. Cherise Moore, Clerk of the Governing Board of the William S. Hart Union High School District, do hereby certify that: (i) the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of Resolution No. 19/20-33 duly adopted by the Governing Board during its regular meeting held on May 6, 2020; and (ii) as of the date specified below, the Governing Board has not modified or repealed Resolution No. 19/20-33.

Dated: May 6, 2020

By: _____

Dr. Cherise Moore, Clerk of the Governing
Board of the William S. Hart Union High
School District