RESOLUTION 21-19

PITTSBURG UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT - PITTSBURG LITERACY PROJECT

WHEREAS, all new parents wish for their newborn children to have an education that prepares them for success in their adult lives, and

WHEREAS, literacy and cognitive skills are the foundation on which all other educational success factors are built, and

WHEREAS, an unacceptable number of children enter adulthood with inadequate reading skills, and

WHEREAS, birth to age five is known to be the most critical time to build the foundation for a child's academic, social, and cognitive development; and

WHEREAS, numerous studies have demonstrated that reading to children and engaging them in conversation and song daily prior to birth until age 5 greatly improves their aptitude for public education, and

WHEREAS, parents, family and caregivers play a critical role in their early learning activities that help children from all backgrounds to better realize their full potential by preventing opportunity gaps and providing a strong foundation to improve their success in school and in life; and

WHEREAS, children under the age of five benefit from public resources available from numerous programs, however more do not because their parents are unaware of either the need or the opportunity, and

WHEREAS, the Pittsburg community has consistently supported education, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Pittsburg Unified School District actively supports the promotion of early childhood education programs with emphasis on programs that build awareness among all parents of children prior to birth to age five in our community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the program shall be called the Pittsburg Literacy Project and shall be ongoing to build a culture of the importance of reading and cognitive skills, prior to birth to age five, in all groups in our community.

Board President, Pittsburg Unified School District