

**BERKELEY UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Resolution No. 12-12**



**Recognizing the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Women in California  
Winning the Right to Vote and Cause for Celebration!**

**WHEREAS**, the women of California and the City of Berkeley won the right to vote after a decade-long effort culminating on October 10, 1911 and only knew for certain on October 12 that a majority of California men had voted for political equality and passed the women's suffrage amendment to the state Constitution;

**WHEREAS**, California was only the sixth state in the nation to approve political equality, passing woman suffrage nine years before the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified;

**WHEREAS**, the innovative California campaign broke new creative ground in promoting Votes for Women by incorporating the latest in advertising and publicity techniques including electric signs, automobile tours, giant billboards, open-air speeches, leaflets in five languages, colorful city-wide displays and countless other new means of outreach;

**WHEREAS**, the amendment, initially thought to be defeated, triumphed after delayed returns from rural areas swung the election in the women's favor, passing by less than 1% of the vote, 125,037 to 121,450, an average margin of one in every voting precinct in state;

**WHEREAS**, the City of Berkeley was the only large city in the Bay Area to pass the suffrage amendment and did so thanks to the remarkable leadership of Mrs. Hester Harland working with Mary McHenry Keith; Fanny McLean, Berkeley High School teacher for 50 years and long-time Vice-Principal; Elinor Carlisle and many other women and men whose work is recognized in the Berkeley Historical Center exhibit **Berkeley**

**Women Vote: Celebrating California Suffrage 1911-2011**, co sponsored by the Berkeley Historical Society, the American Association of University Women, Berkeley, the Friends of the Berkeley Public Library and the League of Women Voters Berkeley, Albany, Emeryville;

**WHEREAS**, the League of Women Voters of Berkeley, Albany, Emeryville was founded 100 years ago on October 30, 1911 as the **Berkeley Center of the California Civic League** and proceeded to use the new voting power of women for improvement of the city and the schools and the League will celebrate its centennial in this historic City Council Chamber on the afternoon of Sunday, October 30, 2011;

**WHEREAS**, this successful, historic effort by courageous and resolute citizens of all races and origins dedicated to the ideal of true democracy is cause for celebration, education and promotion of this triumph that been partially forgotten or ignored, and has for too long been denied its rightful place in the history of our state.

**Now, THEREFORE, be it Resolved** by the Directors of the Berkeley Unified School District that the District hereby recognizes October 10, 2011 as the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Woman Suffrage in California and October 30, 2011 as the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the League of Women Voters Berkeley, Albany, Emeryville and encourages all members of the school community to join in this observance, via celebration, education and promotion.

**ADOPTED** this 12<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2011 by the Berkeley Unified School District Board of Education

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John T. Selawsky, Clerk, Board of Education