

**Berkeley Unified School District
Board of Education**

Resolution No. 11-71 Honoring Father George Crespin

WHEREAS, Fr. George Crespin, former Pastor and current priest of St. Joseph the Worker has devoted over 30 years as a Latino community leader advocating for a quality education for Latino and African American children in Berkeley Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, Fr. George Crespin was one of the original founders of Latinos Unidos, in 1997 that was formed to build a city-wide unity of educators and concerned citizens who advocated, to improve the quality of life of Latinos in Berkeley and continues to have an extensive membership of active leaders in the community; and

WHEREAS, Fr. George Crespin was one of the co-founders of BOCA, Berkeley Organizing Congregations for Actions and has been an active participant in organizing and bridging the faith community around social justice, education, immigration, health and environment; and

WHEREAS, Fr. George Crespin was one of the co-founders of United in Action, a coalition of African Americans, Latinos and Progressive Whites and concerned citizens who met, organized and studied and who brought the issue of the achievement gap to the forefront in the City of Berkeley and to the Berkeley Unified School District; and

WHEREAS, Fr. George Crespin in his 30 years always opened the doors of his congregation for groups to meet, hold educational forums, events and community gatherings at St. Joseph the Worker, and it is at St. Joseph's the Worker that the 2020 Vision was born, that is now a city-wide plan created by visionaries who saw equity in education as a priority, particularly for the students who are African American and Latino, and now in the City of Berkeley the 2020 Vision is the blueprint for how the school district and the city work as partners to address the achievement gap; and

WHEREAS, Fr. George Crespin, has contributed countless hours to advocating and counseling families to find solutions to family issues of divorce, separation, gang involvement, domestic violence and counseling of youth and to celebrating life and youth having access to quality education; and

LET IT HEREBY BE RESOLVED that Fr. George Crespín is honored, valued and respected for his ongoing contributions over the years to the children and families of Berkeley Unified School District.

APPROVED this 22nd day of June, 2011 by Berkeley Unified School District's Board of Education

Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, President
Board of Education