STATEMENT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE EAST SIDE UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT ON THE RESIGNATION OF SUPERINTENDENT CHRIS FUNK

August 6, 2020

The Board of Trustees expresses its gratitude to Chris Funk, who announced his resignation today, for his service as the District’s superintendent. Mr. Funk, who has served as Superintendent since July 2012, is one of the longest-serving superintendents in the District’s recent history. During his tenure Mr. Funk successfully spearheaded several important District initiatives, especially in the areas of equity and addressing education and opportunity gaps. His accomplishments include:

- Championing the call for equity across all District programs, including leading the effort to develop the District’s Equity Policy and developing and implementing processes to address and eliminate disproportionality of outcomes and adverse responses across all student groups.
- Confronting implicit bias in the delivery of District education programs and developing and overseeing professional development programs and trainings to engage staff and students in recognizing and preventing implicit bias.
- Leading the efforts to build community support leading to the passage of three of the District’s bond programs totaling more than $740 million -- Measure I, Measure I Tech, and Measure Z - to build and upgrade District facilities and to increase student computer access and connectivity and upgrade educational software to keep pace with 21st century technological innovations.
- Successfully managing the District’s nearly $1 billion capital bonds facilities construction program over the last eight years.
- Helping create the Spartan East Side Promise, a collaboration between the District and San Jose State University, which offers guaranteed admission to qualified District students.
- Working to establish the “Community Wireless Project” in partnership with the City of San Jose to expand WIFI access to thousands of families in the East Side community.
- Increasing the rate of students meeting A-G requirements at graduation.

These initiatives and accomplishments have sustained the District in executing its mission to create safe, dynamic and relevant learning environments that inspire critical thinking, problem solving and innovation. The Board is committed to continuing these efforts and building on these accomplishments and successes. We thank Mr. Funk for his service and his willingness to assist the District as the Board begins this period of transition to new executive leadership.

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