

Redwood City School District

RESOLUTION NO. 4: 2026-2027 SY

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE REDWOOD CITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AND
LASTING LEGACY OF DR. JOHN BAKER**

WHEREAS, Dr. John Baker has dedicated forty-six (46) years of exemplary service to the students, families, staff, and greater Redwood City community, demonstrating an unwavering commitment to public education and the success of every child; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Baker faithfully served as Superintendent of the Redwood City School District for ten (10) years, providing stable and steadfast leadership during a period of growth, innovation, and transformation while maintaining a steadfast focus on student achievement, educational excellence, and equity; and

WHEREAS, throughout his distinguished career, Dr. Baker championed the belief that schools serve as the heart of the community, advancing a model of community-based wraparound services that connects students and families with essential health, wellness, social, and educational supports, ensuring that every child has the opportunity to thrive; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Baker was a dedicated advocate for the expansion and strengthening of Community Schools, fostering meaningful partnerships among schools, families, local agencies, and community organizations to remove barriers to learning and create environments where all students are supported academically, socially, and emotionally; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the cultural and linguistic strengths of the Redwood City community, Dr. Baker championed the growth and expansion of Dual Language Immersion programs, creating opportunities for students to become bilingual, biliterate, and culturally competent while promoting educational equity and global readiness; and

WHEREAS, understanding that student success is inseparable from student wellness, Dr. Baker led significant investments in mental health services and social-emotional supports,

expanding access to counseling, wellness resources, and comprehensive systems of care that continue to positively impact the lives of students and families throughout the District; and

WHEREAS, throughout his tenure, Dr. Baker balanced long-term strategic vision with sound fiscal stewardship, strategic planning, and a commitment to continuous improvement, strengthening the District's foundation while expanding opportunities for current and future generations of students; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Baker recognized that safe, modern, and inspiring learning environments are essential to student success and led transformative investments in school modernization, facility improvements, and capital construction projects, responsibly stewarding voter-approved bond resources to renovate classrooms, enhance campus safety, improve infrastructure, expand access to technology, and create learning spaces that will benefit students and the Redwood City community for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Baker cultivated enduring relationships with philanthropic organizations, community foundations, corporate partners, local businesses, and individual donors, inspiring a shared investment in public education that expanded educational opportunities, enriched student programs, strengthened family supports, and secured critical resources beyond traditional public funding, reflecting his belief that the entire community shares responsibility for the success of every child; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Baker understood that student success extends beyond the classroom and championed expanded opportunities through after-school enrichment, athletics, extracurricular programs, and experiences that foster confidence, belonging, leadership, wellness, and lifelong success; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Baker earned the trust and respect of the Board of Trustees, staff, families, and community partners through his collaborative leadership, thoughtful judgment, and remarkable ability to listen with intention, fostering meaningful dialogue, building consensus across diverse perspectives, and guiding decisions that consistently placed students at the center of the District's work; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Baker demonstrated a profound commitment to educational equity by intentionally engaging and partnering with historically underserved communities, particularly the District's Hispanic families, ensuring that all parents—including those new to the United States—felt welcomed, heard, and supported as valued partners in their children's education, while also advocating for rigorous opportunities for gifted and advanced learners, recognizing that equity and excellence are complementary commitments that strengthen outcomes for every student; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Baker believed that strong instructional leadership requires leaders to be present where learning happens, consistently modeling best practices through classroom visits, instructional rounds, and meaningful engagement with educators to strengthen curriculum implementation, support high-quality teaching, and foster a culture of continuous improvement focused on student success; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Dr. Baker led with humility, integrity, compassion, and an unwavering belief that every child deserves to be seen, supported, challenged, and empowered to reach their fullest potential, leaving a legacy that will continue to shape the Redwood City School District for generations to come;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Redwood City School District hereby expresses its deepest gratitude and highest appreciation to Dr. John Baker for his extraordinary forty-six years (46) of dedicated service to the District and the Redwood City community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board recognizes Dr. Baker's enduring legacy of advancing educational equity, strengthening community partnerships, expanding opportunities for multilingual learners, promoting student wellness, and ensuring that every child has access to the supports necessary to succeed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees extends its sincere appreciation for Dr. Baker's visionary leadership, unwavering commitment to public education, and lasting contributions to the Redwood City School District, with profound respect and gratitude of the Board of Trustees for a career that has transformed countless lives, leaving a foundation that will continue to benefit students and families for generations to come.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be presented to Dr. John Baker as a permanent expression of the appreciation, admiration, and gratitude of the Redwood City School District and the community it proudly serves.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Trustees of the Redwood City School District at a regular meeting held on the 10th day of August, 2026 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

David Weekly, President

Cecilia I. Márquez, Vice President

Jennifer Ng Kwing King, Clerk

David Li, Trustee

Mike Wells, Trustee

Dr. Christian J. Rubalcaba,
Superintendent