WHEREAS: The students of San Francisco Unified School District continue to strive towards academic excellence; and

WHEREAS: An achievement gap still persists for some of our students; and

WHEREAS: The Office of Academics and Professional Development supports district staff in improving instructional practices to support ALL students; and

WHEREAS: The Strategic Education Research Partnership (SERP) will mobilized the expertise of teachers and school administrators, the power of scientific research, political will and financial resources in a collaborative endeavor to improve student learning; and

WHEREAS: SERP will provide the infrastructure to make a coherent and sustained research, development and implementation program possible; and

WHEREAS: This collaborative partnership will be driven by SFUSD staff and provide the district with nationally renowned experts in areas defined by student needs;

WHEREAS: This initiative requires the approval and support of the Superintendent, the Board of Education and the Mayor of San Francisco;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education direct staff from the Office of Academics and Professional Development to work with SERP on the development of an initiative to support school reform in San Francisco Unified School District;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education approves and fully supports this collaborative endeavor with SERP to develop a research based initiative for improving student learning in San Francisco.