WHEREAS: The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) requires all individuals with a few exceptions to procure minimum essential health insurance coverage to begin January 1, 2014, with an open enrollment period until March 31, 2014; and

WHEREAS: Covered California operates the California Health Benefit Exchange, the state-run health insurance marketplace which provides health plan comparison data to the public and endeavors to connect low-income families with sliding-scale financial assistance for the purchase of health care; and,

WHEREAS: California has the largest uninsured population of any state in the country and the seventh-largest uninsured rate by percentage of population, with about 7 million without health care coverage, many of whom would be eligible for Exchange subsidies or Medi-Cal; and,

WHEREAS: Given that about 84,000 adults under 65 and about 10,000 children in San Francisco are uninsured, Mayor Edwin Lee has declared that the implementation of the ACA a top priority for San Francisco, and has urged enrollment efforts throughout San Francisco to reach out to residents who do not have health insurance; and,

WHEREAS: The San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) considers the wellness of each student a priority and recognizes that the availability of affordable health care contributes to better school attendance which, in turn, impacts student academic performance; and,

WHEREAS: As a school-based presence that is part of various community health networks SFUSD’s Wellness Centers have institutional competencies in community outreach and are well-positioned to reach out to families regarding the need to obtain health insurance and the resources available to them.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the San Francisco Unified School District requests that the Superintendent of Schools disseminate information about the ACA in multiple languages via hard copy to every family in the school district; post the information to School Loop; and, use every opportunity to outreach to families; and,

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That the student representatives of the SFUSD Student Advisory Council shall be activated to assist in the outreach efforts; and,
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That at the high school level, the SFUSD’s High School Wellness Centers coordinate with the Office of Family and Community Engagement; the Student, Family, and Community Support Department; the Department of Children, Youth and their Families, the Human Services Agency, and the Department of Public Health, as appropriate, to execute a two-week health plan enrollment drive and outreach between January 21-31, 2014; and,

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That Student, Family, and Community Support staff, both central staff and staff assigned to schools, will receive basic training on navigating the resources available for connecting families to health care options; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That following the enrollment drive, staff shall provide at a full board meeting a summary report of the outreach efforts, by school site, including number of individuals and families who applied to enroll in health care coverage but not their names, their children’s ages, gender, race and ethnicity, primary language, and other demographic data collected on a voluntary basis.