DATE: March 12, 2015

TO: City Council

FROM: Greg Nyhoff, City Manager
City Manager’s Office

SUBJECT: Resolution of the City Council of the City of Oxnard in Support of the Alliance for Linked Learning

RECOMMENDATION

That City Council adopt a resolution authorizing the City of Oxnard to formally support the Alliance for Linked Learning with Oxnard Union High School District and officially declare the City of Oxnard to be a “Linked Learning City.”

DISCUSSION

In 2012, the Board of Trustees of the Oxnard Union High School District (OUHSD) adopted the Linked Learning approach as a district-wide option to better prepare students for college, career, and life. Linked Learning prepares all high school students for a full range of post-graduation opportunities and is designed to prepare students to meet the Common Core Standards and the A-G college requirements, while participating in a career pathway. Linked Learning has proven to increase graduation and college-going rates. As a result of the Educational Partnership Committee’s work, OUHSD has asked the City to formally support the Alliance for Linked Learning and officially declare the City of Oxnard to be the first “Linked Learning City” in the State of California.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial impact will be minimal to include work-based experiences such as internships, mentoring and job shadowing opportunities for students with the City of Oxnard.

Attachment - #1 – Resolution in Support of the Alliance for Linked Learning with the Oxnard Union High School District, and Officially Declaring Oxnard to be a “Linked Learning City.”
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OXNARD

RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OXNARD IN SUPPORT OF THE ALLIANCE FOR LINKED LEARNING WITH THE OXNARD UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT AND OFFICIALLY DECLARING OXNARD TO BE A “LINKED LEARNING CITY.”

WHEREAS, the City of Oxnard values our youth as one of our greatest resources and is committed to seeing that all youth receive quality education that will prepare them for success in college, career, and life; and

WHEREAS, the next generation of Oxnard youth will become the citizens and leaders of tomorrow and must be academically well prepared to meet the work-based challenges in order to succeed; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, the Board of Trustees of the OUHSD adopted the Linked Learning approach as a District-wide option to better prepare students for college, career, and life; and

WHEREAS, Linked Learning is a proven approach that is transforming education for California students by integrating rigorous academics with career-based learning and real world workplace experiences, as witnessed by a 96% graduation rate nationwide; and

WHEREAS, research demonstrates that students who complete a certified Linked Learning pathway earn more credits in the first three years of high school, report greater confidence in their life and career skills, and say they are experiencing more rigorous, integrated and relevant instruction; and

WHEREAS, by creating a workforce that is better equipped to succeed in postsecondary education programs and handle the jobs of the future by closing the skills gap, Linked Learning makes Oxnard and California more competitive while benefiting the state’s businesses, tax base, and economy; and

WHEREAS, the Alliance for Linked Learning was formed after the OUHSD received a $6 million grant from the California Career Pathways Trust Grant in 2014 and developed a collaboration with the Ventura County Civic Alliance to become the business intermediary on behalf of the OUHSD; and

WHEREAS, providing youth with work-based learning opportunities, fostering interest by young people in careers in municipal government and creating opportunities for community engagement and interaction is a high priority for the City of Oxnard; and

WHEREAS, in order for students to acquire the knowledge in global awareness, finance, economic, business, civic and entrepreneurial literacy that are necessary in the 21st Century, students must obtain written and oral communication, collaboration, critical thinking, problem solving, creativity, and innovative skills; and

WHEREAS, the Alliance for Linked Learning supports teaching a well-rounded rigorous curriculum including core subjects, life and career skills, learning and innovation skills, and information, media, and technology skills that will prepare students for higher education, careers, and civic engagement in the 21st century.
NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Oxnard does hereby resolve that the City of Oxnard formally supports the Alliance for Linked Learning and declares the City of Oxnard to become the first "Linked Learning City" in the State of California by partnering with the schools and students in the OUHSD to advance the goals of the Alliance for Linked Learning approach, and the City of Oxnard will form an official partnership with OUHSD to encourage and facilitate work-based experiences such as internships, mentoring and job shadowing opportunities for students within Oxnard's public and private sectors, and the City's Educational Partnership Committee will bring city leadership together with local school and business leaders to discuss the opportunities for collaboration in these aforementioned areas, and the City of Oxnard will work collaboratively with the OUHSD to encourage and support our youth for college, career, and life.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS _____ day of ________________, 2015, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Tim Flynn, Mayor

ATTEST:

Daniel Martinez, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Stephen M. Fischer, Interim City Attorney