Governing Board Resolution 20-013
In Support of Federal Advocacy to Prioritize Stable
Community College Funding

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic is a monumental and unprecedented challenge which emerged quickly and is resulting in the largest adaptive challenge in the history of our public school system to deliver a high-quality education while ensuring the health and safety of our students; and

WHEREAS, we know this challenge will persist as COVID-19 impacts our economy and destabilizes funding for public education; and

WHEREAS, the UCLA Anderson Forecast recently announced the arrival of the 2020 recession, after adjusting for the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, which ends the economic expansion in the United States and the State of California; and

WHEREAS, UCLA Anderson Forecast predicts the recession will be more severe in California than the overall nation due to a larger proportion of economic activity in tourism and trans-Pacific transportation; and

WHEREAS, while the complete picture of economic indicators are still delayed, local, state, and federal governments, along with community college districts like Grossmont-Cuyamaca, are facing difficult decisions to ensure the delivery of critical services, such as remote learning, while grappling with the reality of an economic recession that includes a decline in revenues; and

WHEREAS, at the same time the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District is incurring new costs to effectively respond to COVID-19 which adds to the severity of the economic recession; and

WHEREAS, the recent Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act provides a total of \$14 billion to institutions of higher education, three-and-one-half times less than the initial request of \$50 billion; and

WHEREAS, in order for community colleges to persevere in this pandemic to protect against the loss of educational attainment and to overcome the educational inequities amplified by COVID-19, a significant federal investment is necessary to stabilize education funding and to ensure funding is available for extended learning options; and

WHEREAS, while persevering during the greatest economic downturn in recent history, community colleges will provide the workforce training that will be critical to rebuilding our economy; and

WHEREAS, this level of funding is necessary for the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District and other community colleges to continue making progress in closing academic achievement gaps and equitably serving all students; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District calls on our Congressional delegation, inclusive of our United States Senators and House of Representatives, and the Governor of California to advocate for additional federal funding to prioritize stable community college funding.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Board of the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District at a regular meeting held this 19th day of May 2020, by the following vote:

AYES: Adams, Cartwright, Garrett, Justeson, Monroe

NOES: None ABSENT: None

I, Elena Adams, Clerk of the Governing Board, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly passed and adopted by said Board at the regularly called and conducted meeting held on said date.

Clerk of the Governing Board