WHEREAS:

The Palo Alto Unified School District ("PAUSD"), founded in 1893, and Leland Stanford Junior University ("Stanford"), founded in 1885, are both long-standing and successful educational institutions, which place the highest value on providing outstanding educational opportunities to the students in our community;

Stanford has built a significant number of rental properties on and near its campus to house families of graduate students, faculty, and other employees, including Escondido Village, Stanford West, and Olmsted Court, as well as having purchased over 50 single-family homes in Stanford and Palo Alto, many of which are rented to faculty and staff;

Stanford, under its proposed 2018 GUP, proposes to build 550 additional rental units on Quarry Road;

Santa Clara County is considering, to address the County’s acute housing shortage, requiring Stanford to build additional high-density rental housing on the Stanford campus or elsewhere within PAUSD, that would add hundreds or even thousands of additional units to the original GUP proposal;

This Stanford GUP-related housing, based on the County planning staff’s projections, is expected to generate between 275 and 1,445 additional students for PAUSD;

Under California tax law, rental housing for Stanford affiliates is eligible for property tax exemption, and, even if on the tax rolls, carries a below market assessment, currently resulting in property tax revenue to PAUSD from this housing that covers less than 10% of the average cost per pupil for the hundreds of students who reside there;

PAUSD, as a Community Funded ("Basic Aid") school district, relies on local property taxes for a large majority of its operating funds, and receives very limited per pupil funding from the State;

Adding hundreds of new students with little or no additional property tax revenue would result in significant and permanent PAUSD budget shortfalls, class size increases, and program reductions, which would irreparably damage the quality of education for all PAUSD students, including those coming from Stanford itself;

Further, that with its current and proposed housing, Stanford has built one or more new neighborhoods on the north end of its properties, within PAUSD, with hundreds of young students who live miles from the nearest PAUSD school; and

PAUSD has always provided local neighborhood schools for all the students in PAUSD, and desires to do so for this emerging Stanford neighborhood, just as it has for neighborhoods built by Stanford in the past, with Escondido and Nixon schools;
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

The PAUSD Board of Trustees, on behalf of the families and students of our community, requests that our County Supervisors require Stanford to mitigate the impact on PAUSD of its housing expansion by:

1) contractually committing to annual payments to PAUSD or a related party, such as the Palo Alto Partners in Education, with the payment amount based on the number of students actually attending PAUSD who reside in tax-exempt eligible housing owned by Stanford;

2) setting aside a parcel of four acres or greater on or near the Sand Hill / Quarry Road corridor for PAUSD to build a neighborhood elementary school, primarily to serve the families of Stanford affiliates residing in Stanford housing;

3) making a direct contribution above the mandated developer fees to mitigate the cost of building a new school.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY: the Board of Education of Palo Alto Unified School District this 14th day of November, 2018, by the following vote:

AYES: Dauber, DiBrienza, Baten Caswell, Collins, Godfrey

NOES:

ABSENT:

I, Don Austin, Secretary of the Governing Board of the Palo Alto Unified School District of Santa Clara County, California, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board at a meeting thereof held at its regular place of meeting on the date shown above and by the vote above stated, which resolution is on file in the office of said Board.

Date: November 14, 2018  Signed: [Signature]