

San Diego County Board of Education

Resolution honoring Richard C. Atkinson

For his visionary leadership to improve access to the University of California and higher education for all California students

Whereas, Richard C. Atkinson served from 1995-2003 as the seventeenth president of the University of California system, enhancing its stature as the world's leading research university of the 21st century; and

Whereas, prior to his selection as President of the University of California system, Dr. Atkinson served for 15 years as Chancellor for the University of California, San Diego during which the campus doubled in enrollment while increasing the distinction of its faculty and research; and

Whereas, throughout his tenure at University of California, San Diego, and as President of the University of California, Dr. Atkinson was a champion for students who were under represented in higher education in general, and in the University of California system in particular, making it his work to improve the University of California's admissions policies and practice in spite of opposition to those efforts from Regents of the University of California; and

Whereas, through Dr. Atkinson's indomitable leadership, the standardized testing system for entrance to the University of California, and to colleges and universities across the nation, was revolutionized, improving access for all students while simultaneously improving the nation's university admissions processes; and

Whereas, as a result of Dr. Atkinson's ground-breaking work, millions of high school students in California and across the nation have seen their hard work rewarded with their admission to colleges and universities; and

Whereas, since his retirement as President of the University of California system, Dr. Atkinson has continued to work on behalf of all students, especially students from poor, working class and unprivileged communities, to improve their access to higher education and expand their educational and economic opportunities.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the San Diego County board of Education hereby honors Dr. Richard C. Atkinson for his powerful leadership in the pursuit of equity in access to higher education admissions and for his powerful leadership in the pursuit of equity in access to higher education admissions and for his specific efforts to improve access to the University of California for all students in San Diego County.

Passed and Adopted this 24th day of August 2005, at a regular meeting of the San Diego County Board of Education.

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