

City of Calistoga

Staff Report

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members
FROM: Dylan Feik, City Manager
DATE: June 5, 2018
SUBJECT: Presentation from Calistoga Promise and Consideration of Entering into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in Support of Calistoga Promise.

APPROVAL FOR FORWARDING:



Dylan Feik, City Manager

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2 **ISSUE:** Received a Presentation from Carla Surber and Maria DiGiulio about the
3 Calistoga Promise and Consideration of an MOU of support
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5 **RECOMMENDATION:** Authorize the City Manager to enter into a Memorandum of
6 Understanding in Support of Calistoga Promise.
7

8 **BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:** Promise Programs are place-based initiatives, and
9 early Promise Programs focused almost entirely on guaranteeing that every student who
10 graduated from local public schools received funding for postsecondary education. The
11 scope of Promise Programs has expanded to include mentorship and career exploration
12 opportunities in order to ensure that students have not just the funding they will need to
13 succeed, but also a clear understanding of their goals and paths to achieve those goals.
14 By working together, all stakeholders in a community strive to ensure more equitable
15 access to postsecondary education for community youth but also build the 21st
16 century workforce they will need to sustain their local economy and initiatives.
17

18 Building the Calistoga Promise will require the input and participation of diverse
19 partners from across the community. The strength of the Calistoga Promise will rely
20 on not only stable and sustainable funding sources, but also the buy-in and support
21 of all stakeholders. Everyone has something to offer! Please consider joining us on
22 this exciting journey as we launch the Calistoga Promise.
23

24 Calistoga Promise is an effort initiated by community members who are working with the
25 Calistoga Joint Unified School District to identify partner agencies and supporters.

26
27 They will provide a brief presentation to City Council and should Council wish to join the
28 effort, Council could adopt a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) as requested by
29 Calistoga Promise (see attachment "City of Calistoga and Calistoga Promise MOU").

30
31 **COUNCIL GOALS:** The project conforms to the following City Council Goals and
32 Objectives

- 33
- 34 • Council Goal 1: Maintain and enhance the economic vitality of the community and
35 the financial stability of the City
 - 36 ○ Objective 2: Promote the qualities of Calistoga that are attractive to
37 residents and visitors
 - 38
 - 39 • Council Goal 7: Expand Calistoga's small-town character by making it safe and
40 attractive

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42
43 **CEQA REVIEW:** The recommended action is not a project as defined by CEQA.

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45 **FISCAL IMPACT:** NA

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47 **ATTACHMENTS:**

- 48
- 49 1. City of Calistoga and Calistoga Promise MOU DRAFT
 - 50 2. Calistoga Promise one-pager May 14

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THE CALISTOGA PROMISE:

We promise the opportunity of quality postsecondary education and career preparation to every student in the Calistoga Joint Unified School District.

BACKGROUND:

The **CALISTOGA PROMISE** and The **CITY OF CALISTOGA** have created a partnership called the **CALISTOGA PROMISE** (The Promise) to make higher education an attainable goal for every student.

The Calistoga community has a responsibility to prepare its young people for successful careers and productive lives. Today and going forward, our regional economy is tied to the global economy. To prepare our young people for success, we must offer nothing less than a world-class education and the opportunity to pursue a meaningful career. Each student needs and deserves an opportunity to earn a postsecondary credential - and often a college degree. The future of Calistoga depends upon our effectiveness in developing a well-rounded, educated, and engaged citizenry, which will sustain and advance the general well-being and economic strength of the City and surrounding region through innovation.

OUR GOALS:

To fulfill this promise, The Promise partners commit to these goals:

- Provide a world-class education from preschool to high school graduation that prepares Calistoga students for successful engagement in postsecondary educational opportunities and the global knowledge economy.
- Reduce and eliminate the opportunity gaps that exist among ethnic and socioeconomic groups at CJUSD.
- Increase community engagement in supporting and participating in The Promise.
- Increase the number of high school students participating in work experience internships.
- Increase the percentage of CJUSD students who are prepared for and attend college directly from high school, and earn degrees and/or career and technical certificates in the most expedient manner possible.
- Raise the educational attainment rate of the community.
- Increase community engagement in supporting and participating in The Promise.

COMMITMENTS:

1. We promise to provide information, services and resources to help Calistoga students and their families prepare for postsecondary education.

CALISTOGA PROMISE promises that, starting in kindergarten and continuing through the senior year of high school, students and families will be offered active assistance in:

- Learning about college opportunities and the value of a college education.
- Visiting college campuses.
- Learning about, taking and completing college preparatory courses.
- Preparing for college.
- Applying for college admission.
- Learning about and applying for college financial aid opportunities.

The CITY OF CALISTOGA promises to:

- Assist CJUSD in providing quality worked-based learning activities to high school students.
- Collaborate with CJUSD to ensure that all students in the city are college and career ready upon graduation from high school.

2. We promise to help students successfully transition to and succeed in college and provide opportunities in career and technical education.

The CALISTOGA PROMISE promises that all students from CJUSD will be offered active assistance in:

- Pursuing a tuition-free first year of higher education at a California Community College if interested and eligible.
- Learning about and applying for college and financial aid.
- Accessing early college credit opportunities, including dual enrollment and credit-by-exam.
- Transitioning from high school and succeeding in college and/or career goals.
- Accessing credit-bearing coursework and efficient student education planning.
- Career and technical education and certification in numerous fields.
- Learning about opportunities for transfer from California Community Colleges to four-year universities.

- Applying for admission to four-year colleges and universities.
- Transitioning from high school and succeeding at four-year institutions.
- Learning about and applying for college financial aid.

3. We promise to work together to deliver these promises for the young people and families of the Calistoga area.

The **CALISTOGA PROMISE** and the **CITY OF CALISTOGA** will work together on all of the activities that comprise the **CALISTOGA PROMISE**. We will share individual student-level data when appropriate to inform our educational practice and work together to support and encourage success for all students, from preschool to postsecondary education, and into their careers. We will work together to provide, assess, improve and expand high-quality, world-class educational opportunities in the Calistoga community.



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To achieve these goals, we intend to:

Empower Families

by supporting student and family awareness of postsecondary educational and training opportunities.

Build an Internship

Program with local business, City, and service club partners.

Provide Financial

Support in the form of last dollar scholarships to all graduates pursuing postsecondary education.

Mentor Every Graduate

who transitions into postsecondary education or career opportunities.