

## **A Resolution Condemning Gender-Bias by Santa Clara County Board of Education Trustee Joe Di Salvo**

WHEREAS, following complaints from Santa Clara County Board of Education staff and board members that Trustee Joseph Di Salvo engaged in demeaning communications and disagreements with female colleagues and staff, [an independent investigator determined that Trustee Di Salvo's behavior was motivated, in part, by gender](#). When women were not doing what he wanted, Trustee Di Salvo made negative, critical, disrespectful, dismissive, demeaning and heated comments, the investigator determined.

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Board of Education has since [censured Trustee Di Salvo](#) for his behavior, and [new complains of gender-bias](#), including misogynistic and abusive behavior, have emerged from teachers working under then Principal Di Salvo at Jane Lathrop Middle School in Palo Alto.

WHEREAS, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits sex discrimination in employment and guarantees all workers the right to a safe, harassment free work environment, and our Santa Clara County Democratic Party platform affirms that our party, "Strongly opposes all discriminatory behavior against women, including misogyny, sexual harassment, and sexual violence," and that our party "Believes that any person who perpetrates sexual harassment or sexual assault of any kind is unfit for elected and appointed office, and that public officials and entities have a duty to investigate accusations of sexual harassment or assault and take appropriate corrective or punitive action."

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party condemns Trustee Di Salvo's actions towards women. Trustee DiSalvo's behavior has absolutely no place in our community, especially from a Democratic elected official in a position of authority. As a school board member, Trustee DiSalvo should be setting an example for students, community members, and candidates for locally elected office.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party considers this behavior disqualifying, and hereby opposes Mr. Di Salvo's campaign to serve another term as Trustee. We also call upon all Democratic elected officials, leaders, and activists who have endorsed Trustee Di Salvo to revoke their endorsements and stand with the women who reported harassment by Trustee Di Salvo.

Co-Sponsors:

Carol Garvey  
Helen Chapman  
Jean Cohen  
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