



# MARIPOSA COUNTY

Board of Supervisors • (209) 966-3222



## **RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2013-485**

MEETING: November 5, 2013

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: John Carrier, District V Supervisor

RE: Letter to El Portal Elementary Students Regarding County Libraries

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### **RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:**

Authorize the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors to Sign a Letter to the El Portal Elementary Students Regarding the County Libraries. During the recent Federal Government shutdown, the Board of Supervisors had discussed the possibility of temporarily closing the County Libraries due to possible budget shortfalls as a result of the projected loss of revenue -- Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) and Sales Tax. Students at the El Portal Elementary School took the initiative to write 46 letters addressed to the Board of Supervisors regarding the students' views on how critical it is to keep the County Libraries open.

In a democratic government system it is important to encourage citizen involvement and the students' initiative and concern should be recognized. A letter from the Board of Supervisors thanking them for sharing their views and opinion is an appropriate action.

### **BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:**

The Board of Supervisors have authorized the Chairman to sign letters commending citizens and/or organizations for actions that have benefited Mariposa County.

### **ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:**

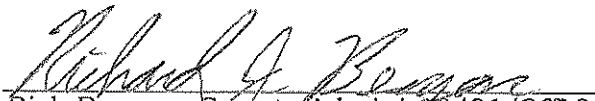
Do not authorize the Chairman to sign the letter. Individual Board members may write their own letters which may not carry the same weight as a letter from the entire Board.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

**El Portal Students and Libraries (DOCX)**

### **CAO RECOMMENDATION**

Requested Action Recommended

  
Rick Benson, County Administrator/Office

**RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]**

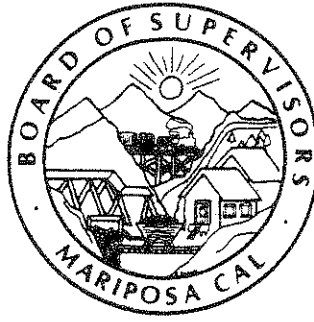
**MOVER:** Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor

**SECONDER:** Kevin Cann, District IV Supervisor

**AYES:** Stetson, Jones, Bibby, Cann, Carrier

# Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

District 1 ..... LEE STETSON  
District 2 ..... MERLIN JONES  
District 3 ..... JANET BIBBY  
District 4 ..... KEVIN CANN  
District 5 ..... JOHN CARRIER



RICHARD J. BENSON  
County Administrative Officer

RENÉ LAROCHE  
Clerk of the Board

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November 5, 2013

El Portal Elementary Students  
Post Office Box 190  
El Portal, California 95318

Dear Students:

Thank you for sending letters of support for our County Libraries. The Mariposa County Board of Supervisors have read all 46 letters and were impressed with your concern regarding the possibility of temporarily closing the County Libraries due to budget cuts. Libraries serve the community in many ways and are gateways to the path of knowledge. Students are the future of our community, and we must ensure they have the information, skills and abilities to lead our county.

Your letters expressed the need to keep our libraries open and this need was clearly communicated. Your participation and actions in the democratic process have made a difference. The Mariposa County Board of Supervisors will do our best to keep the doors open to all of the Libraries within the County.

We encourage you to continue to write your elected officials whenever a subject is important to you, and to express your views and expectations of them. Without this input elected officials may not know your thoughts and ideas, and this type of communication is necessary if we want our system of Government to continue to work. Remember no one is silent, but not always heard, and we need to change this. We commend all of you for your efforts.

Sincerely,

LEE STETSON  
Chairman

LS/JC/mbh