



**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF PETALUMA CITY  
ELEMENTARY AND PETALUMA JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL  
DISTRICTS ("PETALUMA CITY SCHOOLS"), (1) FINDING THE  
PROPOSED CLASSROOM BUILDING PROJECT AT MARY COLLINS  
SCHOOL AT CHERRY VALLEY EXEMPT UNDER CEQA AND ADOPTING  
CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION; (2) APPROVING THE PROJECT; AND (3)  
AUTHORIZING FILING OF NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

**WHEREAS**, Petaluma City Schools (the "District") is a California public school district duly organized and validly existing under the laws of the State of California, serving the City of Petaluma and the surrounding areas;

**WHEREAS**, the District currently owns real property located at 1001 Cherry Street, Petaluma, CA 94952, commonly referred to as the Mary Collins School at Cherry Valley ("School Site");

**WHEREAS**, the Classroom Building Project at the Mary Collins School at Cherry Valley ("Project") consists of removing four portable classroom buildings from the School Site and constructing a new two-story, approximately 8,900-square-foot building. The new building would be located on the northern end of the School Site, adjacent to the east side of the existing school parking lot. The new building would include seven classrooms, resources offices, and restrooms. The Project would result in a net increase of three classrooms on the campus. The Project also includes relocation of one existing modular restroom building and new landscaping and hardscape, such as walkways and stairways in the area of the new building. The Project would include a new fence and gate along Cherry Street that would provide direct access to the new building. The Project would remove approximately 29 existing trees and plant approximately five new trees, resulting in a net decrease of approximately 24 trees on the campus.

**WHEREAS**, the District has prepared a Notice of Exemption for the Project attached hereto as **Exhibit "1"** (the "NOE");

**WHEREAS**, the Project and future uses of the School Site serve educational purposes for the District's students;

**WHEREAS**, environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") is required unless an action is not a "project" subject to CEQA (14 Cal. Code Regs. §15060), or unless an exemption from CEQA applies;

**WHEREAS**, the CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, title 14, division 6, categorically exempts certain projects, including projects consisting of:

- Class 1 – operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use (§ 15301);



- Class 2 – replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced (§ 15302);
- Class 4 – minor public alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees (§ 15304);
- Class 11 – construction, or placement of minor structures accessory to (appurtenant to) existing commercial, industrial, or institution facilities including on-premise signs (§ 15311); and
- Class 14 – minor additions to existing schools within existing school grounds where the addition does not increase original student capacity by more than 25 percent or ten classrooms, whichever is less (§ 15314).

**WHEREAS**, based on the record, as further explained below, the proposed Project meets the criteria for, and thus is exempt from CEQA under the respective exemptions, as set forth in the table below:

Proposed Project	Applicable Exemption
Classroom Building Project at Mary Collins School at Cherry Valley	CatEx: Class 1, Class 2, Class 4, Class 11, and Class 14

**WHEREAS**, the proposed Project meets the criteria for, and thus is categorically exempt from CEQA, under each respective categorical exemption class set forth in the table above. Specifically:

- **Class 1:** The proposed Project involves minor alterations to existing facilities and structures of a currently operating school site, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use, which are consistent with the Class 1 Exemptions (14, CCR § 15301);
- **Class 2:** The proposed Project involves the replacement or reconstruction of existing school facilities upon the site of the currently located campus facilities with substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structures replaced, consistent with the Class 2 Exemption (14 CCR § 15302);
- **Class 4:** The proposed Project includes related site work, grading, landscaping, and other improvements requiring minor public alterations in the condition of land and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees, consistent with the Class 4 Exemption (14 CCR § 15304);

- **Class 11:** The proposed Project consists of construction, or placement of minor structures accessory to (appurtenant to) existing facilities, consistent with the Class 11 Exemption (14 CCR § 15311); and
- **Class 14:** The proposed Project involves minor additions to an existing school within existing school grounds, without increasing the original student capacity by more than 25 percent or ten classrooms, consistent with the Class 14 Exemption (14 CCR § 15314).

**WHEREAS,** the CEQA Guidelines also set forth exceptions to the categorical exemptions (§ 15300.2); and

**WHEREAS,** based on the record, the Project is not subject to any of the exceptions to categorical exemptions, because, without limitation:

- The Project is not located in or near a uniquely sensitive environment nor would the Project impact a designated environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern;
- There are no other projects of the same type in the same place as the Project that would result in cumulative impacts, nor would the Project introduce a new use or substantially increase the number of students on campus;
- There is no indication of unusual circumstances that would cause a significant environmental impact related to the Project;
- The Project is not located in the vicinity of a state scenic highway, and would not result in damage to scenic resources;
- The Project is not located on a hazardous waste site; and
- The Project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** the Board of Education of the Petaluma City Schools hereby finds, determines, declares, orders, and resolves as follows:

1. That the foregoing recitals are true and correct, and, together with the referenced Exhibits attached hereto, are incorporated herein.
2. That the Project meets the criteria for, and thus is categorically exempt from CEQA under, Class 1, Class 2, Class 3, Class 4, Class 11, and Class 14.
3. That none of the exceptions to the categorical exemptions apply to the Project.
4. That all applicable CEQA requirements have been fulfilled for the Project.
5. That the exemptions from CEQA set forth herein respective to the Project are hereby adopted.



6. That all actions required to be taken by applicable law related to the approval of the Project have been taken. Therefore, the Board hereby approves the Project as more specifically identified in the attached Notice of Exemption (attached hereto at **Exhibit "1"** and incorporated herein). This action constitutes an "approval" as defined under section 15352(a) of the CEQA Guidelines for the Project.
7. That the Notice of Exemption, attached hereto, is approved and incorporated herein by reference: "the NOE", which is attached hereto as **Exhibit "1"**.
8. That District staff is hereby authorized and directed to file and post the attached NOE for the Project, consistent with this Resolution, with all appropriate public agencies or entities and the State Clearinghouse – California Governor's Office for Planning and Research ("OPR") (CEQAnet).
9. That the District's Superintendent and/or designee is hereby directed and is authorized to take all further action necessary to carry out, give effect to, and comply with the terms and intent of this Resolution.

The foregoing resolution was introduced by Board Member Webster, who moved its adoption, seconded by Member Quinn, and adopted on roll call by the following vote:

CLOUD: Aye   PAUN: Aye   QUINN: Aye   WEBSTER: Aye   WILLIAMS: Absent

**WHEREUPON**, the President declared the above resolution adopted and **SO ORDERED** this 10 of October, 2025



Mady Cloud, President, Board of Education

ATTEST:



Matthew Harris, Secretary

- **Exhibit "1"**: Notice of Exemption

**Exhibit “1”**

Notice of Exemption

**[SEE ATTACHED]**