



**BEFORE THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
POINT ARENA SCHOOLS
MENDOCINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

RESOLUTION NO. PAS-23-6101

Censure of Trustee Mary Visher

The Board of Trustees (“Board”) of Point Arena Schools (“District”) hereby publicly censures Trustee Mary Visher for violating Board Bylaws and Policies as follows:

WHEREAS, the Board has openly and properly committed itself to upholding the Board-adopted Policies and Bylaws to govern its conduct and provide for open, honest and respectful communications while adhering to state laws governing the Board and its members; and,

WHEREAS, Board Bylaw 9005, Governance Standards, provides that Board Members shall “keep confidential matters confidential,” “govern responsibly and hold themselves to the highest standards of ethical conduct,” “understand the distinctions between Board and staff roles and refrain from performing management functions that are the responsibility of the Superintendent and staff,” “understand that authority rests with the Board as a whole and not with individuals,” and “govern within board-adopted policies and procedures”; and,

WHEREAS, Board Bylaw 9011 forbids Board members from releasing confidential information acquired as part of a Board member’s official duties including confidential information acquired during a closed session; and

WHEREAS, Board Bylaw 9200 recognizes that “the Board is the unit of authority over the district and that a Board member has no individual authority”; and

WHEREAS, Board Bylaw 9200 further provides that Board members “are responsible for complying with the requirements of the Brown Act” governing local agency meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Board has, at the District’s expense, participated in numerous trainings regarding effective and responsible governance and received advice from legal counsel regarding the same; and,

WHEREAS, on July 5, 2022 Trustee Cione submitted a formal complaint alleging Brown Act violations by Trustee Visher relating to the disclosure of confidential information obtained during the June 22, 2022 closed session meeting; and,

WHEREAS, on July 20, 2022 Trustee Cione’s formal complaint against Trustee Visher was presented to the Board in open session during a special Board meeting; and,

WHEREAS, at the July 20, 2022 meeting, Trustee Visher acknowledged that she knowingly disclosed confidential information obtained in closed session; and,