

Adopted by the Board of Education at its Regular Meeting of May 27, 2008.
(At First Reading on Suspension of the Rules)

Subject: Resolution No. 85-27A4

**OPPOSING THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
AERIAL PESTICIDE SPRAYING FOR THE LIGHT BROWN APPLE MOTH PENDING
AN INDEPENDENT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**
- Commissioners Mark Sanchez and Norman Yee

WHEREAS: The Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM) is a pest subject to Federal and State quarantine and eradication orders; and there is a confirmed presence of Light Brown Apple Moths in Northern California; and

WHEREAS: The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) plans to begin an LBAM aerial spraying program in San Francisco and surrounding areas in August of 2008; and

WHEREAS: Aerial and other blanket pesticide applications have repeatedly been shown in the past to upset natural ecosystem balance in unpredictable and often catastrophic ways; and aerial and other blanket pesticide applications have repeatedly been shown in the past to cause unintended, unpredictable, and often serious human health effects; and

WHEREAS: The proposed materials to be used in the LBAM spraying program have not been tested for toxic health effects when used in areas of concentrated population; and

WHEREAS: The State has claimed an emergency exemption under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in order to begin the LBAM aerial spraying program without conducting environmental review; and

WHEREAS: The State has confirmed that it will begin preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) after the aerial spraying program has begun, and biologists have testified that aerial pesticide spraying is extremely unlikely to eradicate LBAM; and

WHEREAS: The CDFA LBAM spraying program is relying on pesticides that contain ingredients that are highly toxic to aquatic life; and the CDFA LBAM program sprays pesticides in microscopic plastic capsules that pose unknown inhalation risks; and

WHEREAS: Aerial spraying disproportionately affects vulnerable populations such as those who work and play outdoors, those with the recognized disability multiple chemical sensitivity, and those in the homeless population who have no option for protection from the spray or receipt of written notification of spray dates; and

WHEREAS: Without a full and complete EIR process, local jurisdictions do not have sufficient information to respond to the concerns of their residents regarding past health effects of aerial pheromone spraying, the safest methods of pheromone distribution or the possible inhalation risks regarding microscopic plastic encapsulation; and

WHEREAS: Children are a more vulnerable population to pesticide exposure than adults due to lower body weight, less developed detoxification pathways, and less mature lungs.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the San Francisco Unified School District opposes the CDFA aerial spraying program to eradicate LBAM and supports a moratorium on all proposed aerial spraying programs until a complete environmental impact report substantiates that the program will not adversely affect the health of children, the elderly and other vulnerable populations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Governor and other relevant state and federal officials will be notified of the Board's position; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That the Superintendent of Schools is requested to inform all school families of both the policy resolution and pertinent facts regarding the impending aerial spraying.

5/27/08