



Senate Resolution 2020-11 MJC Mascot Resolution

Whereas, the associated students are elected by the student body to be the voice of student issues and,

Whereas, the associated students of Modesto Junior College missions emphasizes, “ASMJC is a body of the students, by the students, and most importantly for the students, ASMJC will address student concerns on campus. ASMJC will be a voice in all decisions made on campus that may affect the student body” and,

Whereas, ASMJC has always been responsible for the college mascot including ASMJC selecting the mascot of a Pirate in 1921, updating the Pirate over the years, funded the purchase of mascot costumes, and holding various mascot naming contests during previous years,

Whereas, if students have concerns over the mascot or any student related issue they should be referred to ASMJC and,

Whereas, this is not a topic under the purview of the responsibilities of the Academic Senate, Yosemite Faculty Association, and California Schools Employees Association and,

Noting, that MJC employees should adhere to Yosemite Community College District Board policy 7-8057 Civility which states, “Members of the Yosemite Community College District embrace the value of civility, which promotes mutual respect, fairness, concern for the common good, and politeness. The diversity of thought and ideas, on which an academic community thrives, is best maintained by a policy of respect and civility” and,

Acknowledging, the lack of respect and civility towards students by some faculty members in Academic Senate and College Council meetings and several inappropriate comments in regards to the topic of the MJC mascot and,

Acknowledging, the misrepresentation of facts presented by some faculty members in regards to other schools changing their mascot as the schools did not change the name, they are discussing changing the look and,

Acknowledging, that in both examples used the process was only allowed when the school’s student government organizations approved doing so and,

Acknowledging, our Pirate mascot increases positive energy at our events, school spirit, brings us together as one on campus, and is a part of MJC’s history and

Acknowledging, 5 California Community Colleges and one Historically Black College & University (HBCU) have a Pirate as their mascot, and

Acknowledging, that ASMJC has stated on several occasions being open to evolving the look of the Pirate mascot and,

Whereas, MJC is the beacon of hope for our students, and it is important that our students see the light of hope in the middle of the waters, and for our students Petey and Penelope the Pirate makes the trip not so scary, and be it

Resolved, The Associated Students of Modesto Junior College respectfully reiterate that the Mascot is the Pirate, ASMJC does not want it changed, and that the decision is a student decision. Additionally, call on all MJC employees to respect the decisions made by the student senate in any and all things that affects the students of Modesto Junior College as we have done so in decisions that affect employees.

Approved: May 1, 2020

Yea: 14 Nay: 0