CITY OF PALO ALTO PROCLAMATION

Unity Day – October 23, 2014 Recognizing the Need to Create Safe, Welcoming Schools and Communities

WHEREAS, October is National Bully Prevention Month and more than 13 million children in the United States (U.S.) a year are affected by bullying every year and approximately 30 percent of students in the U.S. are involved in bullying on a regular basis, either as a victim, a bully or both; and

WHEREAS, the City of Palo Alto will join the Palo Alto Unified School District in celebrating Unity Day, a celebration of safe and welcoming schools; and

WHEREAS, as civic leaders of Palo Alto, we can and must use our resources to effect positive changes in our community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Palo Alto has joined forces with the U.S. Conference of Mayors and *The Bully Project* in the Campaign to end bullying, which builds resolve to improve school climate and create safer schools; and

WHEREAS, the City of Palo Alto will work with the Palo Alto Unified School District, the District Safe and Welcoming Schools Committee, the Palo Alto Youth Council and Project Safety Net to engage the community in creating welcoming and inclusive environments for students that are safe and will allow students to reach their potential academically, socially and emotionally; and

WHEREAS, the City of Palo Alto and its partners pledge to raise awareness around this issue by hosting events that bring together key decision makers and community members who work to change the culture in our schools and communities so that tolerance, kindness and safety are top priorities.

NOW, THEREFORE, **I, Nancy Shepherd,** Mayor of the City of Palo Alto, on behalf of the City Council do hereby proclaim October 23, 2014 as Unity Day to bring awareness to the issue of bully prevention and to work to create safe and supportive environments for all students and community members.

Presented: October 20, 2014

Nancy Shepherd Mayor