

Eugene School District 4J BOARD RESOLUTION No. 2018-05 Concerning Student, Staff and School Safety

WHEREAS, student safety is a prerequisite for consistently high levels of academic and social development; and

WHEREAS, public schools are charged with supporting student achievement and developing responsible community members in safe and welcoming schools; and

WHEREAS, violence and harassment can not only alienate students from their peers and their environment, thereby impeding learning, but also cause injuries and fatalities; and

WHEREAS, gun violence on school campuses represents a particularly egregious and unacceptable threat to the lives of students, teachers and staff across the country; and

WHEREAS, the Eugene School District 4J Board of Directors supports the right of students and staff to attend schools that are safe and free from violence and harassment, especially life-threatening forms of violence; and

WHEREAS, exposure to trauma can adversely affect a child's ability to learn and their health for the rest of their life; and

WHEREAS, the most effective approach to creating safe school environments is a comprehensive, coordinated effort including school wide, district wide and community wide strategies supplemented with legislation, resources and support at the state and federal legislation level;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Eugene School District 4J will continue to work with a broad spectrum of local community stakeholders, local law enforcement, mental health professionals, parents, students, teachers and staff to take any threats of violence seriously and to develop, implement and monitor policies and programs that foster and support a positive school climate, free from harassment and violence.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Eugene School District 4J wholly rejects arming school staff for any purpose, and will maintain existing regulation of firearms at school and will not support any effort to arm school staff;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Eugene School District 4J will maintain a zero tolerance policy for possession of guns on any and all school campuses to the maximum extent permissible under state and federal law;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Eugene School District 4J urges the State of Oregon and the United States Congress to invest in wraparound services to prevent bullying, harassment, discrimination and violence in our schools and to provide funding for programs and staff such as counselors, nurses and psychologists, who support students' mental, physical and emotional health.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Eugene School District 4J urges the State of Oregon and the United States Congress to implement common sense measures that prioritize student safety and environments in which all students have the opportunity to learn, grow and thrive.

Adopted this 16th day of the month of May in 2018.

Eileen Nittler, Chair

Eleen Mittle

Alicia Hays, Vice-Chair

Anne Marie Levis

Judy Newman

Evangelina Sundgrenz

Jim Torrey

Mary Walston