



GLENDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Resolution No. 13

RESOLUTION OF THE GLENDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION STANDING IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE OF ARTSAKH AND CONDEMNING AZERBAIJAN'S GENOCIDAL CAMPAIGN

WHEREAS, the Republic of Artsakh, also known as Nagorno-Karabakh, is the ancestral homeland of the Armenian people and has been populated by Armenians for thousands of years; and

WHEREAS, Artsakh is home to an estimated 120,000 civilians including 30,000 children, 20,000 seniors, and 9,000 persons with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Republic of Azerbaijan created a humanitarian crisis with the unilateral implementation of an illegal blockade of the Lachin Corridor beginning on December 12, 2022. The Lachin Corridor is known as the "Road of Life" as the only road that connects the people of Artsakh to the Republic of Armenia and the rest of the world. The blockade left the people of Artsakh without access to basic human needs such as food, water, electricity, medical supplies, and emergency aid; and

WHEREAS, Luis Moreno Ocampo, the Founding Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, released an investigative report providing an official assessment on the blockade of the Lachin Corridor on August 7, 2023. In the report, the Founding Chief Prosecutor stated, "There is an ongoing Genocide against 120,000 Armenians living in Nagorno-Karabakh, also known as Artsakh. The blockade of the Lachin Corridor by the Azerbaijani security forces impeding access to any food, medical supplies, and other essentials should be considered a Genocide under Article II, (c) of the Genocide Convention: 'Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction.'"; and

WHEREAS, the Republic of Azerbaijan launched an unprovoked, large-scale, and genocidal military attack on the people of Artsakh following the many months long blockade on September 19, 2023. Initial reports indicate that Azerbaijan is using deadly force, including heavy shelling of residential areas, which has resulted in significant destruction and the deaths of hundreds of innocent civilians and children; and

WHEREAS, the Glendale Unified School District celebrates the rich diversity of its school community and recognizes the thousands of students, families, and employees of Armenian descent who are valued members of the school district; and

WHEREAS, the Glendale Unified School District is committed to the comprehensive and accurate teaching of world history including crimes against humanity such as the Armenian Genocide of 1915 as part of its history-social science curriculum; and

WHEREAS, the Glendale Unified School District recognizes the role of current and historical events in the teaching of tolerance and understanding, peaceful conflict resolution through dialogue, and the value and strength of diversity; and


WHEREAS, the Glendale Unified School District stands in solidarity with the people of Artsakh.


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Glendale Unified School District directs the Interim Superintendent or Designee to implement the following immediate actions:

1. Call on the White House, U.S. Department of State, and U.S. Congressional representatives to condemn Azerbaijan's genocidal campaign on the people of Artsakh, cease all U.S. taxpayer funded military aid to Azerbaijan, implement sanctions to hold Azerbaijan accountable for its human rights violations, and implement urgent measures to uphold the safety of the people of Artsakh and guarantee access to emergency humanitarian aid.
2. Ensure that students, families, and employees can readily access and are aware of the counseling and mental health services and resources that are available through the school district and community partners to provide support in coordination with school site leadership.
3. Develop educational lesson plans, presentations, and professional development opportunities for the school community in coordination with the Teaching & Learning Department, Glendale Teachers Association, California School Employees Association, and Glendale Schools Management Association.
4. Support awareness campaigns, humanitarian aid drives, and other response efforts that are organized by the school community in coordination with the Student Advisory Council and Glendale Council PTA.
5. Collaborate with state, county, and local government agencies in response efforts including the City of Glendale whose Sister Cities includes Artsakh's City of Martuni.

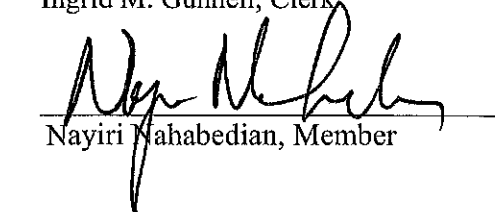
PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED on this 26th of September 2023 at a regular meeting of the Glendale Unified School District Board of Education in Los Angeles County, California.


Jennifer Freemon, President


Shant Sahakian, Vice President


Ingrid M. Gunnell, Clerk


Kathleen Cross, Member


Nayiri Nahabedian, Member