

## SUNNYVALE SCHOOL DISTRICT

### Resolution # R26-08

#### Reaffirming Sunnyvale's Commitment to Safe, Inclusive Schools for All Students and Staff

**WHEREAS**, the Sunnyvale School District Governing Board believes every student and staff member deserves dignity, respect, and the opportunity to thrive in a safe, inclusive learning environment; and

**WHEREAS**, members of the Sunnyvale School District community represent diverse backgrounds, identities, experiences, and abilities, including those who are lesbian, gay, genderqueer, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning, intersex, asexual (LGBTQIA), students with disabilities, multilingual learners, and those from historically underrepresented cultural and ethnic groups; and

**WHEREAS**, LGBTQIA youth and other marginalized students remain at disproportionate risk of bullying, discrimination, and exclusion, which can lead to significant academic, social, and emotional challenges; and

**WHEREAS**, the Sunnyvale School District acknowledges that building a safe and inclusive school environment requires proactive efforts to ensure that every student feels seen, valued, and celebrated; and

**WHEREAS**, creating this environment includes intentionally engaging families, not to focus narrowly on opt-out requirements, but to present the District's broader vision for a safe and inclusive school year in which all students learn about themselves and one another; and

**WHEREAS**, part of this vision is ensuring that students experience diverse stories and perspectives, such as reading *A Boy Called Bat* which features an autistic main character who loves animals, learning anti bullying lessons from *The Day You Begin* and *Morris Micklewhite and the Tangerine Dress*, and studying California's ecosystem through both scientific and traditional Ohlone perspectives—demonstrating that inclusion is woven throughout Sunnyvale's curriculum and values; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Board affirms that educators must be supported with clear guidance and professional development so they feel confident to teach inclusive materials, and so that no child's safety, identity, or experience is diminished due to fear, discomfort, or misunderstanding; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board recognizes that while legal opt-out provisions may exist, our first responsibility is to remind families of the richness of what "opting in" provides—the opportunity for students to grow in empathy, understanding, and belonging alongside their peers;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education of the Sunnyvale School District reaffirms its unwavering commitment, in accordance with SSD Board Policy 0410: *Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities*, to provide equal opportunity for all individuals in education and to assure that District programs, activities, and practices shall be

free from discrimination, including based on sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, race, ethnicity, disability, language, or socioeconomic status; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Education will continue to:

- A. Present to families at the start of each school year a positive, student-centered vision of Sunnyvale’s inclusive curriculum and goals, highlighting opportunities for students to learn about themselves and one another;
- B. Provide strong guidance, resources, and training for teachers to confidently implement inclusive materials and resist pressures that would erase or diminish LGBTQIA content or other diverse perspectives;
- C. Ensure that inclusive curriculum—including LGBTQIA representation, disability visibility, multilingual experiences, and culturally responsive instruction—remains integral to the District’s equity and inclusion efforts;
- D. Continue to include measures of student belonging, safety, and inclusivity in equity and inclusion progress reports presented to the Board of Education; and
- E. Publicly affirm that the safety and dignity of students—particularly LGBTQIA and other marginalized youth—shall never be compromised for the comfort of adults or institutional caution.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Education of the Sunnyvale School District at a regular meeting held on September 18, 2025 by the following vote:

AYES: \_\_\_\_\_

NOES: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSTAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bridget Watson  
President, Board of Education

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Peggy Shen Brewster  
Clerk, Board of Education