



RESOLUTION 2023-24/03 PROTECTION OF STUDENT AND EMPLOYEE RIGHTS

Whereas, the Temecula Valley Unified School District Board of Education is committed to providing equal opportunity for all individuals in District programs and activities.

Whereas, it is the right of every child, regardless of gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation, to access a free public K-12 education, and the District welcomes and supports all students,

Whereas, the District has a responsibility to ensure that all students who reside within its boundaries, regardless of gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation, can safely access a free public K-12 education,

Whereas the Board of Education believes that the rich variety and diversity of families and communities is one of our strengths, and furthermore, believes that a strong community consists of a supportive unit composed of various genders, orientations, cultures, races, and ethnicities; and

Whereas the District recognizes that there are employees and educators of the highest caliber who are gay, lesbian, and transgender and that all employees are valued members of the school community regardless of their gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation;

Whereas, state and federal law prohibit discrimination, including discrimination based on gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation;

Whereas the District recognizes the plight of LGBTQ+ youth, meaning the recognition that LGBTQ+ youth face social-emotional and mental health stressors at much higher rates than their non-LGBTQ+ peers; and

Whereas lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youth in California experience higher rates of poor emotional health, substance use, and school absences compare with their straight-identified youth. These young people are reported as three times more likely to attempt suicide; and

Whereas, according to the Center For Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) national Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance results released in 2021, 43% of transgender youth have been bullied on school property, and 29% of transgender youth, 21% of gay and lesbian youth, and 22% of bisexual youth have attempted suicide; and,

Whereas, state law under the FAIR Education Act, Senate Bill 48, requires that California K-12 schools provide Fair, Accurate, Inclusive, and Respectful (FAIR) representation of people with disabilities and

people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender in our curricula, and the inclusion of LGBTQ+ history in K-12 grade education, and,

Whereas, the California State Board of Education passed curricular frameworks, including ELA/ELD (2010), History-Social Science (2016), and Health Education (2019), that include considerations for supporting the academic and social-emotional success of LGBTQ+ students and,

Whereas, the Temecula Valley Unified School District affirms its role in and commitment to a whole-child approach of meeting the academic and social-emotional learning needs of all students, including LGB TQ+ youth through a Multi-Tiered System of Supports, and

Whereas, the Temecula valley unified School District is actively working to create more inclusive policies and practices that support, uplift, and promote a sense of belonging and student engagement for all students, including LGBTQ+ youth;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Temecula Valley Unified School District remains committed to inspiring equity, celebrating diversity, and establishing safe and socially-just environments in our school communities for all students,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Temecula Valley Unified School District prohibits discrimination against all persons, whether student, family/caregiver of a student, or District employee, on the basis of actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression of their associates;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Temecula Valley Unified School District prohibits bullying and harassment against all persons, whether students or District employees, on the basis of actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression, or the actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression of their associates;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVE that the Board declares the Temecula Valley Unified School District to be a safe space for all its students, meaning that the District is a place for students to learn, to thrive, and to seek assistance, information, and support free from discrimination and bullying.

AYES:-- _____ NOES: _____ ABSENT: _____ ABSTAIN: _____

Attest:

Clerk

President