

School District 197 Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED BY SCHOOL DISTRICT 197, a School District of the State of Minnesota, as follows:

WHEREAS, the School District 197 Buildings and Grounds Office is dedicated to the study and understanding of promoting a healthy and natural environment through the reduction and elimination of pesticides; and

WHEREAS, bees and other pollinators are integral to a wide diversity of essential foods, including fruits, nuts, and vegetables; and

WHEREAS, bees and other pollinators are threatened due to habitat loss, pesticide use, disease, and parasites; and

WHEREAS, recent research suggests a strong link between neonicotinoid and other systemic insecticides, and harm to plant pollinators, including honey bees, native bees, butterflies, moths, and other insects; and

WHEREAS, District 197 believes supporting pollinators fosters environmental awareness and sustainability and increases interactions among students, educators, neighborhoods, and clubs; and

WHEREAS, School District 197 already promotes an ethos of environmental stewardship through its LIVEGREEN environmental clubs, recognized Green Ribbon schools, and district-wide sustainability programs.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by School District 197 of Dakota County, Minnesota, that the district is hereby declared a Pollinator-Friendly School District,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that School District 197 shall:

- Refrain from using a broad treatment of insecticides that contain neonicotinoid and implement a policy that uses spot treatment application methods that are pollinator friendly.
- Undertake best efforts to include trees, shrubs, grasses, flowers and other plants that are favorable to bees and other pollinators, with informed consideration of the inclusion of pollinator host plants, in the District's planting plans;
- Undertake best efforts to communicate to School District 197 families the importance of creating and maintaining pollinator habitat.

ADOPTED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD OF SCHOOL DISTRICT 197 on _____