

SALT LAKE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Resolution for the Protection of Children

RECITALS

WHEREAS, Salt Lake City School District is located in Salt Lake County, the first county in the United States of America to be officially certified by Welcoming America, which celebrates and promotes inclusive communities, and highlights the belief of the people of Salt Lake that all our residents, including immigrants and refugees, are vital contributors to the success of our community.

WHEREAS, the demographics of Salt Lake City School District highlight the incredible diversity of our students, families, and staff, which includes a robust refugee and immigrant constituency.

WHEREAS, the Board of Education embraces and values the richness and benefits that a diverse student population bring to the educational environment.

WHEREAS, a large body of research demonstrates that students improve their cognitive skills, including critical thinking and problem solving; exhibit more creativity; increase their abilities to collaborate; and feel safer in school and in life when they are educated in settings where diversity is not only encouraged but celebrated.

WHEREAS, the Board of Education is firmly committed to supporting the social and emotional well-being of all of its students, including teaching students to understand and respect themselves and others, and promoting universal social acceptance and friendship.

WHEREAS, the Board of Education shares the deep concerns of its constituents about the treatment of migrants and asylum seekers, especially minors at the U.S. - Mexico border.

WHEREAS, the Board of Education recognizes the right of the U.S. to secure its borders, but as individuals dedicated to improving the lives of children, the Board deplores the use of family separation, which can cause irreparable harm and lifelong trauma to children, as a tool of immigration policy aimed at deterring people seeking safety.

WHEREAS, the Board of Education strongly believes that these children deserve our protection and should remain with their families as they seek asylum.

WHEREAS, the Board of Education understands the uncertainty and fear some of our families and students are experiencing due to these immigration practices and the threatened end of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA) program and the drastic reduction of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) grantees.

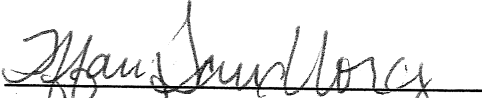
RESOLUTION

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education reaffirms its commitment to provide a safe school environment for all its students as evidenced by its Safe School Resolution, initially passed on March 21, 2017, and reaffirmed on this date.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education condemns all hateful speech and violent action directed at any student or individual, including immigrants, people of color, and further commits to respect the human rights and civil liberties of all people.


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education urges all relevant authorities in the U.S. to take action to end the policy of family separation, and ensure that migrant and refugee children attempting to cross the border have access to basic rights and sanitary conditions, such as clean water and food, healthcare, and adequate shelter.

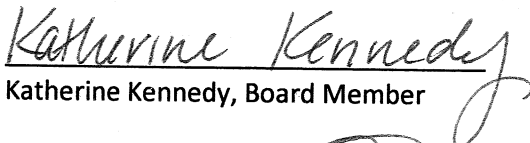
The foregoing resolution is hereby approved and adopted by the Board of Education of the Salt Lake City School District at its regular public meeting held in Salt Lake City on this 3rd day of September 2019.


Tiffany Sandberg, Board President


Melissa Ford, Board Vice President

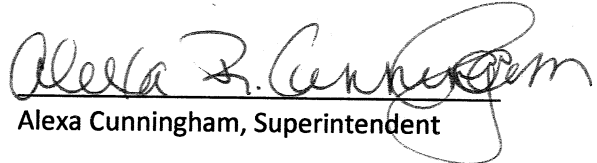

Michael Nemeika, Board Member


Samuel Hanson, Board Member


Katherine Kennedy, Board Member


Kristi Swett, Board Member


Nate Salazar, Board Member


Alexa Cunningham, Superintendent