

Proclamation of Orange Unified School District Condemning Hate and Racism

WHEREAS, the outbreak of COVID-19 has seen an unprecedented spread with devastating effects across countries, communities, and cultures, including throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 will not be stopped by boundaries and was not created or caused by any race, nationality or ethnicity, and the World Health Organization has cautioned against using geographic descriptions that can fuel ethnic and racial discrimination; and

WHEREAS, basic human decency requires a respect and acceptance for people of all backgrounds, and the motto of the United States is “E pluribus Unum”, meaning “Out of many one”; and

WHEREAS, America’s professed values include a commitment to liberty, equality, and justice for all – values the country should never stop striving to attain; and

WHEREAS, America’s diversity is a source of strength and prosperity and California’s vibrant communities’ benefit from cultural contributions made by people of every ancestry; and

WHEREAS, the Orange Unified School District is fully committed to the safety, security, and equal treatment of students, staff, and community as it confronts the COVID-19 pandemic but recognizes that the pandemic has had a disproportionate impact on marginalized communities, including communities of color; and

WHEREAS, each individual has the ability to promote inclusiveness, celebrate diversity, support all fellow students, staff and community members, prevent the spread of misinformation, and reject hate and bias in all forms; and

WHEREAS, hate crimes, discrimination and aggression against specific communities including Asian American Pacific Islanders, African Americans, and Jewish communities are on the rise throughout the country and involve xenophobia, and

WHEREAS, the Orange Unified School District wishes to affirm its commitment to the well-being and safety of all community members and ensure they know they are not alone and that the Orange Unified School District is committed to ending the spread of all forms of hate and bigotry; and

WHEREAS, schools have an obligation not only to prepare students academically but also to provide the foundation for personal growth and responsible participation in civic life; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, THE ORANGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT condemns hatred, xenophobia, harassment, and violence towards all people and commits to creating a supportive, inclusive culture that fully embraces all students,

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that the Orange Unified School District will continue its efforts to support students, staff and community and educate all on the benefits of diversity, inclusion, and unity.

Adopted by the Orange Unified School District Board of Education on this 6th day of the month of May in 2021.



Kathryn Moffat, Board President



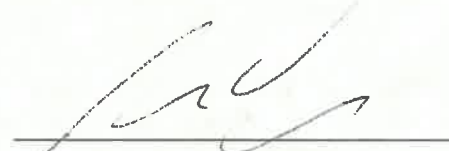
Andrea Yamasaki, Board Vice President



Kris Erickson, Clerk of the Board



Rick Ledesma, Member



John Ortega, Member



Ana Page, Member



Angie Rumsey, Member