

**LAGUNA BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
RESOLUTION 21-09
RECOGNIZING LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER,
QUEER/QUESTIONING (LGBTQ+) PRIDE MONTH**

WHEREAS, June is a time to celebrate our dynamic LGBTQ community, raise awareness of quality services, and foster dialogue to promote healthy, safe, and prosperous school climates and communities for all; and

WHEREAS, LBUSD declares support for (LGBTQ+) students, families and staff and those that may be perceived as such; and

WHEREAS, LBUSD strives to model and promote inclusive and respectful treatment of all our members; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ youth are twice as likely as their peers to report being physically assaulted, kicked, or shoved;¹ and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ youth are twice as likely as their peers to attempt suicide;² and

WHEREAS, nationally 34% of LGBTQ+ students report being bullied or harassed on school property;³ and

WHEREAS, nationally over 80% of LGBTQ+ students of color report being verbally harassed and are often blamed for their own victimization;⁴ and

WHEREAS, California state law addresses discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying towards LGBTQ+ youth, there have been numerous studies indicating the inequities experienced by the LGBTQ+ community, including poverty, homelessness, school harassment, physical assault, domestic violence, hate crimes, mental health issues, and substance abuse concerns; and

WHEREAS, in the 2017-19 California Healthy Kids Survey data in Orange County, students identified as LGBTQ+ were 30% more likely than non-LGBTQ+ youth to experience harassment and bullying at school, 30 to 40% more likely to exhibit chronic sadness, and 2 to 3 times more likely to smoke cigarettes and binge drink; and

WHEREAS, LBUSD LGBTQ+ students are vibrant, brilliant, and engaged in self and social liberation in spite of this bullying and harassment; and

WHEREAS, no one should ever be the target of bullying, harassment, or violence; and

WHEREAS, school districts can make changes to ensure schools are safer and more supportive of LGBTQ+ students, families, and staff; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ youth at schools with gay-straight alliances and policies prohibiting the expression of homophobia in place for at least 3 years have fewer suicidal thoughts;⁵ and

WHEREAS, the District is committed to maintaining safe, healthy and welcoming learning environments for all members of our community including the LGBTQ+ community or those who may be perceived as such; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to focus on localized efforts that support LGBTQ+ youth including student and school resources that focus on positive behavioral interventions and support, resources on school climate that address bullying and parent engagement, as well as tools for student health and wellness; and

WHEREAS, through interagency collaborations, as a designated No Place for Hate district, through Professional Development including World of Difference Anti-Bias training, Unconscious Bias Training, Implicit Bias, OC Human Relations training, Diversity & The Creative Economy Symposium, and Welcoming Schools Presentation, North County LGBTQ+ the District is working to cultivate positive and safe school environments to empower youth with confidence and knowledge to successfully navigate and improve the ever-changing world.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Laguna Beach Unified School District Board of Education proclaims June 2021 as LGBTQ+ Month to inspire equity, create alliances, celebrate diversity, and establish safe environments in our schools and communities.

Footnotes

1 Human Rights Campaign (<https://www.hrc.org/youth-report/view-and-share-statistics>)

2 Mental Health and Suicidality Among Racially/Ethnically Diverse Sexual Minority Youth (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4062032/>)

3 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (<https://www.cdc.gov/lgbthealth/youth.htm>)

4 Gay-Straight Alliance Network (https://gsanetwork.org/files/aboutus/LGBTQ_brief_FINAL-web.pdf)

5 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (<https://www.cdc.gov/lgbthealth/youth.htm>)

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the LBUSD Governing Board on May 27, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: 5 - Vickers, Perry, Kelly, Osborne, Normandin


NOES:

ABSENT:

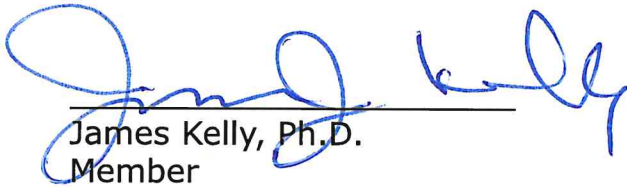
ABSTAIN:



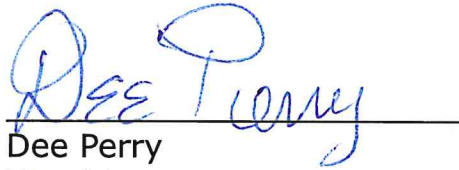
Carol Normandin
Board President



Kelly Osborne
Clerk



James Kelly, Ph.D.
Member



Dee Perry
Member



Jan Vickers
Member