

Flag Resolution

Whereas, President Barack Obama declared June LGBT Pride Month in 2010, stating “I call upon all Americans to observe this month by fighting prejudice and discrimination in their own lives and everywhere it exists.” – Proclamation 8529 by U.S President Barack Obama, May 28, 2010; and

Whereas, June has henceforth been designated as a time to celebrate our Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning (LGBTQ) community, with the express purpose of raising awareness of quality services, and to foster a dialogue to promote healthy, safe, and prosperous school climates and communities for all; and

Whereas, in 1982, Wisconsin became the first state in the nation to pass a gay rights law; and

Whereas, all children and youth should be able to attend and work in a safe and inclusive environment free from discrimination, and civil rights laws contribute to such environments; and

Whereas, the lack of awareness and understanding of issues facing LGBTQ children and youth has contributed to higher rates of school dropout, academic failure, and school disengagement; and

Whereas, education regarding LGBTQ issues increases understanding and cultivates respect for LGBTQ children and youth; and

Whereas, policies that specifically mention sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression are associated with: students feeling safer; lower levels of bullying; decreased incidents of harassment related to sexual orientation; increased teacher/staff interventions; and a greater reporting of incidents; and

Whereas, School Board Policy 411 prohibits discrimination in the district’s programs and activities based on sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression among other characteristics; and

Whereas, flying the rainbow flag throughout the month of June further symbolizes the District’s celebration of diversity and support for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender community.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Waunakee Community School District recognizes the month of June as LGBTQ Pride Month and will fly the rainbow flag at its buildings during June to inspire equity, create alliances, celebrate diversity, and establish a safe environment in our schools and community; and that this resolution be distributed to every school in the District.

Be It Further Resolved this statement be permanently imprinted in the Board of Education minutes for the Regular BOE meeting dated June 8, 2020.