

PROCLAMATION
***Reaffirming Commitment to the Rights of LGBTQ+ Youth,
Families, and Staff***
March 2019

WHEREAS, Alameda Unified School District has had a resolution for more than 5 years recognizing and supporting October as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer/Questioning (LGBTQ) History Month; and

WHEREAS, AUSD and the City of Alameda have embraced a unifying message of Everyone Belongs Here; and

WHEREAS, The rights and dignity of LGBTQ+ people, especially transgender and gender non-conforming individuals, have been under attack in this country because of proposed policy changes at the national level, including but not limited to announcing plans to: dismiss complaints from transgender students involving exclusion from school facilities; deny health and housing services to LGBTQ people; stop conducting surveys and research on LGBTQ people, especially youth; dismiss federal protections against discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity; withdraw landmark guidance on how schools are mandated to protect transgender students under the federal Title IX law; and ban transgender military service members; and

WHEREAS, We do not know how potential federal policy changes will affect transgender and gender-nonconforming individuals, but we view these actions to be especially harmful to our youth who are coming to terms with their identity and may be vulnerable to this marginalization; and

WHEREAS, the CDC's 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey clearly shows that LGBTQ+ youth are many times more likely to experience depression, bullying, substance abuse, and suicide ideation than other students; and

WHEREAS, AUSD understands we have a duty to protect all individuals who are members of our community, including those who are transgender or gender non-conforming, and stand against any policies that threaten the rights and safety of AUSD community members;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Alameda Unified School District publicly reaffirms its commitment to the rights of all LGBTQ+ youth, families, and staff, including individuals who are transgender or gender non-conforming, and AUSD supports students and staff to stand in solidarity and be allies with and advocates for all AUSD community members.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 12th day of March, 2019.

AYES: _____ MEMBERS: _____

NOES: _____ MEMBERS: _____

ABSENT: _____ MEMBERS: _____

Mialisa Bonta, President
Board of Education
Alameda Unified School District
Alameda County, State of California

ATTEST:

By: _____
Sean McPhetridge, Secretary
Board of Education
Alameda Unified School District
Alameda County, State of California