

VISTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. 20-42

RESOLUTION REAFFIRMING COMMITMENT TO FIGHT RACISM

WHEREAS, current events have enhanced the need for communities and leaders to stand in solidarity by declaring unequivocally that the lives of Black students and Black people in our community matter; and

WHEREAS, current events have enhanced the need for communities and leaders to stand in solidarity by declaring unequivocally that the lives of all indigenous and other people of color in our community matter; and

WHEREAS, proclaiming that the lives of Black, indigenous, and other people of color matter does not negate the commitment of Vista Unified in its mission of “educating all students for success”. Rather, this resolution aligns with the values of being responsive to the needs of our community and ensuring that we elevate conversations to forge racial equity and disrupt systems of inequity; and

WHEREAS, Vista Unified has a shared core value of equity. In Vista Unified, we celebrate our diversity and will provide the necessary resources and supports to eliminate barriers to success and foster a more equitable future for all of our students; and

WHEREAS, we have a moral obligation to provide a safe, equitable, and high-quality education for all students; and

WHEREAS, recent racially charged incidents have deeply hurt many of our students and others in our communities; and

WHEREAS, schools are the cornerstones of communities, and educators can play a powerful role in changing people’s perceptions and processes; and

WHEREAS, the Vista Unified Board of Education continues to take an unwavering stand against racism in all forms; and

WHEREAS, we believe that we – individually and collectively – must create nurturing learning environments where every student has equitable access and opportunity, regardless of their skin color or ethnicity; and

WHEREAS, the Vista Unified Board of Education values the different cultures and ethnicities of our workforce and our commitment to anti-racist leadership and inclusive working environments where each person is treated with respect and dignity; and

WHEREAS, the Vista Unified Board of Education's values are to create a learning environment founded on trust, respect, collaboration, and equity; and

WHEREAS, the Vista Unified Board of Education is committed to serving all of the students in our community by providing quality education that allows students to fully engage in relevant curriculum that reflects their lives and histories; and

WHEREAS, closing opportunity and access gaps is our moral imperative when we know that a quality education is the key to improving outcomes for so many children and families; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Vista Unified Board of Education and Superintendent of schools reaffirm their commitments to fighting racism in all of its forms through a safe, equitable, and high-quality education for all students and an inclusive working environment for all employees.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Vista Unified Board of Education directs the Superintendent to conduct a series of workshops and trainings focused on anti-racism and unconscious bias for our staff and community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Vista Unified Board of Education directs the Superintendent to work with our teachers, administrators, and the curriculum department to expand courses with a focus on racial justice and multiculturalism; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Vista Unified Board of Education and the Superintendent calls upon our community to join with us in committing to introspective evaluation of ourselves as public servants and citizens.

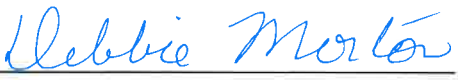
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Board of the Vista Unified School District on June 25, 2020, at a duly noticed meeting by the following vote:

AYES: 5

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:


Clerk, Board of Trustees
VISTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT