



TIGARD-TUALATIN SCHOOL DISTRICT 23J

Proclamation

TO COMMEMORATE PRIDE MONTH

WHEREAS, Tigard-Tualatin School Board policy states that all persons, including those who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer, have equitable educational opportunities and a school experience that is validating, empowering, and just; and

WHEREAS, this commitment to educational equity means that a student's success should be neither predicted nor predetermined by race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, housing status, familial status, immigration status, disability status, linguistic difference, religion, culture, or any protected class status; and

WHEREAS Pride month began in June of 1969 on the one-year anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising in New York City after LGBTQ+ and allied friends rose up and fought against the constant police harassment and discriminatory laws that have since been declared unconstitutional; and

WHEREAS, many LGBTQ+ youth and youth perceived to belong to these groups continue to face harassment and physical violence; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ youth are almost five times as likely to have attempted suicide compared to straight cisgender youth, and each episode of LGBTQ+ victimization, such as physical or verbal harassment or abuse, increases the likelihood of self-harming behavior by 2.5 times on average; and

WHEREAS having a gender sexuality alliance reduces a child's risk of attempting suicide by 50 percent and students at schools with gender sexuality alliances experience less bullying around gender non-conformity; and

WHEREAS federal law guarantees students the right to form gender sexuality alliance clubs where other non-curricular clubs exist; and

WHEREAS, the Tigard-Tualatin School District believes that the rich diversity of families and communities is one of our greatest strengths, and furthermore believes that a family is a supportive unit composed of various genders, orientations, cultures, races, and ethnicities; and

WHEREAS, the Tigard-Tualatin School District celebrates, values, and welcomes the diversity of our student body, our teachers, our staff, and our administrators, including the diversity of sexual orientation and identity in our community;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors for Tigard-Tualatin School District declares the month of June 2023 as LGBTQ+ Pride Month and urges residents to recognize the contributions made by members of the LGBTQ+ community and to actively promote the principles of equality, liberty, and justice.

Adopted this 12th day of June, 2023.

Signed:



Tristan Irvin, Chair

Attest:



Dr. Sue Rieke-Smith, Superintendent